

## EXPERT REPORT

Opinion re “Expert Report of Peter A. Erickson” April 12, 2018  
Opinion re “Expert Report of Joseph E. Stiglitz” April 13, 2018

*Kelsey Cascadia Rose Juliana, et al. v. United States of America, et al.*

*Case No. 6:15-CV-01517-TC*

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Prepared for:  
The United States Department of Justice

August 13, 2018



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David G. Victor

**1 I. INTRODUCTION**

2 This expert report is submitted in connection with the matter known as *Kelsey Cascadia Rose*  
3 *Xiuhtezcatl Tonatiuh M., through his Guardian Tamara Roske-Martinez; et al., v. The*  
4 *United States of America; Donald Trump, in his official capacity as President of the United*  
5 *States; et al., United States District Court, District of Oregon Case No. 6:15-cv-015-17-TC*. I  
6 have been asked to assess claims made by Peter A. Erickson, regarding the U.S. share of GHG  
7 emissions, the feasibility of transitioning to a consumption-based accounting system, and  
8 impacts on emissions from potential reforms to federal fossil fuel subsidies and leases, as  
9 proffered by Mr. Erickson in his Expert Report, dated April 12, 2018. I also have been asked to  
10 assess claims made by Joseph E. Stiglitz, regarding whether U.S. dependence on fossil fuels is an  
11 inevitable consequence of history, and whether the U.S. can adopt meaningful policy  
12 interventions to mitigate climate change without engaging with its international trading partners,  
13 as proffered by Dr. Stiglitz in his Expert Report, dated April 13, 2018. The opinions contained  
14 in this report are based on my professional knowledge, training, and experience. I reserve the  
15 right to supplement this report as additional information is made available.  
16

**17 II. QUALIFICATIONS**

18 I am a professor at UC San Diego where I teach international relations, energy policy and energy  
19 market design at the School of Global Policy and Strategy. I also am an adjunct Professor of  
20 Climate, Atmospheric Science and Physical Oceanography at the Scripps Institution of  
21 Oceanography. Formerly, I was a tenured full professor at Stanford Law School where I taught  
22 industrial organization and also led the Stanford University Program on Energy and Sustainable  
23 Development.  
24

25 I am a nationally-recognized expert in energy and environmental policy, with more than thirty  
26 years of experience. I am the author or co-author/editor of eight (8) books and approximately  
27 200 articles. My work has been cited more than 14,000 times (per Google Scholar). My  
28 curriculum vitae is included as Appendix A to this report, and a list of my publications from  
29 2008 to the present is contained in Appendix B.  
30

31 Since 1990, I have been actively involved in the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change  
32 (IPCC), the United Nations' body charged with periodically assessing the science of climate  
33 change, including the science underpinning control of emissions that contribute to climate  
34 change. In 2007, the IPCC won the Nobel Peace Prize for its work. I have been engaged in five  
35 (5) IPCC assessments, performing various author, contributor and reviewer roles. In the most  
36 recent IPCC assessment, concluded in 2014, I served as a convening lead author, the term the  
37 IPCC uses for assessment members who have greatest responsibility for the report. I also  
38 contributed to the two key summaries of the study—the “Summary for Policy Makers” and the  
39 “Technical Summary.”  
40

41 I have been Chairman and a member of the advisory board, as well as a member of the Board of  
42 Directors, for the Electric Power Research Institute (EPRI). EPRI is a non-profit organization  
43 established by US and global electric utilities for the purpose of conducting research on  
44 advanced electric power technologies. I am a member of the Global Future Council for the  
45 World Economic Forum, which convenes the annual industry leader event in Davos Switzerland.  
46

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47 For four years, I have served as a member of the advisory board of the Institute of Nuclear Power  
48 Operators (INPO), the organization established after Three Mile Island with the mission of  
49 independent oversight of the safe operation of all U.S. nuclear reactors. I chair the San Onofre  
50 Community Engagement Panel, which helps steward the safe closure and dismantlement of the  
51 San Onofre nuclear reactor complex located south of Los Angeles.

52

53 My undergraduate degree is in History and Science (Harvard), and my Ph.D. is in Political  
54 Science from the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT).

55

56 I am a regular participant in academic, industry, and government studies on issues related to  
57 energy sources and energy systems in the U.S. and abroad. Examples of my participation  
58 include the Council on Foreign Relations Task Force regarding the national security  
59 consequences of US dependency on oil imports—I served as task force member and Chief of  
60 Staff with former Secretary of Defense Jim Schlesinger and former CIA Director John Deutch as  
61 co-chairs. At Stanford, I convened studies on the globalization of the natural gas market, the  
62 organization of the global oil industry, and the globalization of the coal market. I also served on  
63 the advisory board of the MIT study “The Future of Natural Gas,” a major study looking at  
64 developments in the US and overseas gas markets. Most recently, I served as a panel member on  
65 the US National Research Council study on reliability and resilience of the U.S. power grid.

66

67 In addition to my work at UC San Diego, I am a nonresident senior fellow at the Brookings  
68 Institution. I am the co-chair and co-founder of the cross-Brookings initiative on energy and  
69 climate. The goal of this initiative is to rethink strategies for effective management of the  
70 climate change problem, within the U.S. and globally.

71

### 72 III. SUMMARY OVERVIEW

73

74 The plaintiffs in this case have put forth a series of claims regarding the role played by the U.S.  
75 in global greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions, and potential pathways for addressing these  
76 emissions going forward. In my expert opinion, several assertions made by Mr. Peter A.  
77 Erickson in his Expert Report, dated April 12, 2018, are based on insufficient facts and data, and  
78 the incorrect application of generally accepted methods. Specifically, there are five topic areas  
79 discussed by Erickson in his Expert Report, upon which I believe his opinions cannot be  
80 reasonably relied.

81

82 First, with respect to the U.S. share of global emissions, it is my expert opinion that the analyses  
83 within Erickson’s Expert Report obscures the scope and complexity of policy interventions  
84 needed to control emissions by improperly focusing only on energy-related combustion of fossil  
85 fuels. A full accounting of GHGs and emissions controls indicates that a wide range of industrial  
86 and agricultural activities and policies should be considered when deriving a total estimate of  
87 emissions. By failing to consider the full range of activities and gases that contribute to climate  
88 change, Erickson oversimplifies the scope of the actions necessary to decrease U.S. and global  
89 GHG emissions. Further, Erickson’s own data, as well as the data I reference in this Expert  
90 Report, indicate that the U.S. constitutes only a small portion of global emissions. Even if the  
91 U.S. were to unilaterally eliminate all of its greenhouse gas emissions, 87 to 88% of global  
92 emissions still would remain. The facts support that the U.S. is just one of many emitters; and, in  
93 my view, action to limit climate change requires coordinated international action.

94 Second, with respect to claims regarding the use of consumption-based accounting methods for  
95 GHGs, it is my expert opinion that such methods are neither administratively, nor politically  
96 straightforward to implement quickly. Erickson oversimplifies the technical feasibility of the  
97 U.S. adopting a consumption-based inventory and accounting system. He also fails to articulate  
98 the length of time that will be needed to design and implement an accurate consumption-based  
99 accounting system. Importantly, Erickson fails to address a central challenge in implementing  
100 such a system: border adjustments to bring emission control incentives for imported products in  
101 line with products manufactured in the U.S. Further, Erickson's Expert Report fails to note that  
102 even if the U.S. were to shift to a consumption-based accounting system, such a shift would  
103 increase the share of global emissions attributed to the U.S. by only about 1%. As I stated  
104 previously, action to limit climate change requires coordinated international action, regardless of  
105 the accounting method adopted by the U.S.

106

107 Third, with respect to U.S. federal energy subsidies, I believe that Erickson's Expert Report is  
108 misleading and provides insufficient basis to support his claims. Erickson suggests that U.S.  
109 subsidization of energy is dominated by fossil fuels. I disagree. I estimate that: 1) federal fossil  
110 fuel subsidies are a tiny fraction of total value of the fossil fuel energy industry, and therefore not  
111 material to the industry's operations; and 2) Erickson appears to cherry-pick data that focuses on  
112 fossil energy subsidies, ignoring the substantial subsidies that exist for other elements of the  
113 energy system, including efficiency and renewable energy.

114

115 On a straight-dollar basis, I find that subsidies for renewable energy exceed subsidies for fossil  
116 energy by a factor of at least 2. Further, proportional to U.S. energy output, the tax-related  
117 subsidy for renewables is more than 50 times the level of tax-related subsidies for fossil fuels.  
118 When properly analyzed, the data indicate that U.S. subsidies have shifted, and continue to shift,  
119 in the direction of energy sources that require market support – away from fossil fuels, and  
120 towards renewables in support of a diversified energy portfolio.

121

122 Fourth, with respect to the impacts of federal subsidies on oil production, I find that Erickson  
123 selectively targeted data and tailored his methods to inflate the beneficial impacts of subsidy  
124 reform on fossil fuel consumption and associated emissions reductions. Erickson limits the bases  
125 of his opinion to one academic study and one commercial study, even though those and other  
126 reputable studies point to different conclusions. Notably, he is conspicuously silent regarding  
127 the range of expert views on the matter of subsidy reform in the oil production sector. My  
128 examination of these studies, as well as review of the studies that Erickson, himself, relies on as  
129 part of the basis for his conclusions, indicates that the effect of oil subsidy reforms on emissions  
130 will be small to zero. More broadly, the studies that Erickson cites in support of his analysis of  
131 the impacts of subsidies on oil production do not substantiate his claims, and serve to evince that  
132 this topic lacks clear-cut conclusions. Rather than subsidy policy, which is at the margin of key  
133 considerations for the fossil fuel sector, it is my opinion that market and technological forces  
134 mainly drive production, consumption, and emissions associated with the oil industry.

135

136 Fifth, with respect to the impacts of federal coal leasing policies, I again find that Erickson's  
137 conclusions are not supported by the breadth of nuanced research on this topic. In my expert  
138 opinion, wholesale reform of federal coal leasing policies warrants more rigorous analysis of  
139 attendant impacts than that presented by Erickson in his Expert Report. The foundation of  
140 Erickson's opinion is qualitative and focused on elementary economic logic that he mis-applies

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141 to the coal market. In my expert opinion, it is probable that coal extraction will continue to  
142 decline over time, irrespective of federal coal leasing reforms or reversal of preferential tax-  
143 based subsidies.

144

145 I also examined the foundation of Joseph E. Stiglitz's assertion in his Expert Report, dated April  
146 13, 2018, that the U.S. failed to take affirmative action to eliminate fossil fuels. I maintain that  
147 this assertion is ill-founded and not well-substantiated. Specifically, Stiglitz fails to identify  
148 plausible, real-world actions that the U.S. government could have taken that would have led to  
149 appreciably different outcomes with respect to domestic and international energy systems. It is  
150 my belief that the dependence on fossil fuels which existed prior to the oil crises of the 1970s,  
151 and which exists today, in fact, is the inevitable consequence of history, contrary to the Stiglitz  
152 assertion (page 12 in Stiglitz' Expert Report). My opinion is shared by nationally-recognized  
153 historians in energy technology.

154

155 In addition, Stiglitz fails to acknowledge that, in the late 1970s, when he asserts the U.S. failed to  
156 take affirmative actions to move off fossil fuels, there was little experience with renewables  
157 technology. What experience did exist suggests that such technologies could be as much as 25  
158 times more costly than existing rival (fossil fuel) technologies. While advances in wind and solar  
159 technologies have facilitated, and will continue to facilitate, integration of renewables into the  
160 U.S. energy system, these technologies were cost-prohibitive in the 1970s, and the potential for  
161 their future performance was relatively unknown.

162

163 Finally, I find that Erickson and Stiglitz make key errors of omission, in their respective Expert  
164 Reports, by failing to note that climate change requires international cooperation, as a matter of  
165 foreign policy. In my expert opinion, effective solutions to mitigate the adverse impacts of  
166 climate change necessitate engaged cooperation between the U.S. and its international partners.  
167 Stiglitz suggests that the U.S. has been neglectful in the actions needed to achieve international  
168 cooperation on climate problems. I disagree. In fact, the U.S. has been at the forefront of efforts  
169 to engage with its trading partners on issues of global climate, including efforts associated with  
170 the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC), the 1992 Framework Convention on  
171 Climate Change, and the 2015 Paris Agreement.

172

173 It is my expert opinion that the simplistic and narrowly-focused approaches posited by Stiglitz  
174 and Erickson with respect to U.S. engagement on the issue of climate change fails to appreciate  
175 the global nature of the problem and the need for a nuanced foreign policy strategy to obtain  
176 international cooperation. Below, I summarize the bases for my opinions in greater detail.

177

**178 Finding #1: THE SIZE AND COMPOSITION OF U.S. EMISSIONS NECESSITATES  
 179 AN INTEGRATED SOLUTION, AND THE U.S. SHARE OF GLOBAL EMISSIONS IS  
 180 DECLINING**

181

182 The Plaintiffs in this case have put forth that “the United States is responsible for more than a  
 183 quarter of global historic cumulative CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.”<sup>1</sup> The Federal Defendants have admitted  
 184 that “from 1850 to 2012, CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from the United States (including from land use)  
 185 constituted more than one-quarter of cumulative global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.”<sup>2</sup> The Expert Report of  
 186 Mr. Peter A. Erickson, dated April 12, 2018, states:

187

188       “The U.S. is responsible for a substantial amount of global GHG [Greenhouse  
 189       Gas] emissions.” (page 3)

190

191 I examined the data relied upon, and the techniques applied by, Erickson to support his  
 192 conclusion. It is my expert opinion that Erickson’s analysis of the size and composition of U.S.  
 193 emissions obscures the scope and complexity of policy interventions needed to control those  
 194 emissions. Further, even if the U.S. were to unilaterally eliminate all of its current GHG  
 195 emissions, about 88% of global emissions would still remain.<sup>3</sup> I state the bases for my opinion  
 196 below.

197

198 First, the data that Erickson presents as the basis for his opinion are for only a subset of  
 199 greenhouse gases—industrial emissions of carbon dioxide (CO<sub>2</sub>), mainly from burning fossil  
 200 fuels.<sup>4</sup> In so doing, Erickson creates the impression that emissions control policies should  
 201 pinpoint only energy-related combustion of fossil fuels and niche industrial activities, such as  
 202 production of cement. This is incorrect, because Erickson’s statistics exclude 35% of global  
 203 emissions of GHGs, as shown in Figure 1 and explained below. A proper and full accounting  
 204 shows there are many other GHGs that contribute to climate change, beyond the subset of  
 205 emissions discussed by Erickson in his Expert Report. Further, in my view, emissions controls  
 206 should implicate a range of industrial and agricultural activities in the United States and abroad.  
 207 In fact, many other gases and sources beyond CO<sub>2</sub> from industrial sources should be considered  
 208 when deriving a total estimate of GHG emissions—notably, methane (CH<sub>4</sub>), nitrous oxide (N<sub>2</sub>O),  
 209 CO<sub>2</sub> from changes in land use, and so-called “F-gases” used in industrial operations. Scientific  
 210 evidence shows that soot also has a large impact on climate change—most soot comes from  
 211 biomass burning, combustion of diesel fuel, and a host of other activities in the US and abroad.<sup>5</sup>

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<sup>1</sup> First Amended Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief, *Kelsey Cascadia Rose Juliana, et al. v. United States of America et al.*, Case No. 6:15-CV-01517-TC, Document No. 7, filed September 10, 2015, page 3, paragraph 7.

<sup>2</sup> Federal Defendants’ Answer to First Amended Complaint for Declaratory and Injunctive Relief (ECF No. 7), *Kelsey Cascadia Rose Juliana, et al. v. United States of America et al.*, Case No. 6:15-CV-01517-TC, Document No. 98, filed January 13, 2015, page 5, paragraph 7.

<sup>3</sup> See Figure 2 of this Expert Report for an explanation of the derivation of the 88% figure.

<sup>4</sup> The Erickson report presents data from the Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center (CDIAC) at the Oak Ridge National Laboratory (ORNL). The CDIAC data set, available at <http://cdiac.ess-dive.lbl.gov/>, is focused on fossil fuels and industry. It is necessary to look to other data sources to develop a complete picture of GHG emissions.

<sup>5</sup> T.C. Bond et al., “Bounding the role of black carbon in the climate system: A scientific assessment,” *Journal of Geophysical Research: Atmospheres* 118:538-5552, 2013. Drew Shindell, et al., “Simultaneously Mitigating Near-

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212 In my opinion, by failing to consider the full range of activities and GHGs that contribute to  
 213 climate change, Erickson oversimplifies the scope of actions necessary to decrease global GHG  
 214 emissions.

215

216 My opinion is supported by Figure 1, which shows the full accounting for global emissions, as  
 217 reported in the latest assessment of the IPCC.<sup>6</sup> In my view, policy intervention to mitigate the  
 218 growth of GHG emissions requires flexibility and should be broad in scope. Since 1990, the  
 219 U.S. has been a leading advocate for such a “comprehensive approach” in emissions statistics  
 220 and emissions control efforts.<sup>7</sup> The essence of the U.S. approach is that any effort to limit  
 221 climate change should engage the full range of activities and GHGs that cause such change.

222

223 Specifically, I believe that the scope of policy intervention should include not just the whole of  
 224 the energy system (a major source of CO<sub>2</sub> and CH<sub>4</sub>), but also agriculture and land policies (a  
 225 major source of CH<sub>4</sub> as well as N<sub>2</sub>O and soot and the carbon absorbed in soils and thus CO<sub>2</sub>  
 226 emissions), air pollution policy (which affects CH<sub>4</sub> and soot), wastewater treatment (a source of  
 227 N<sub>2</sub>O and CH<sub>4</sub>), many manufacturing industries (where fluorinated “F-gases” are used along with  
 228 cement where the chemistry of cement manufacture cases CO<sub>2</sub>), and forestry (which affects  
 229 carbon in soils and in above-ground timber). For these reasons, Erickson’s oversimplification of  
 230 the interventions necessary to achieve his stated reductions in GHG emissions fails to consider  
 231 the breadth of necessary policy changes, and the complexity of interactions between energy  
 232 systems and industrial sectors.

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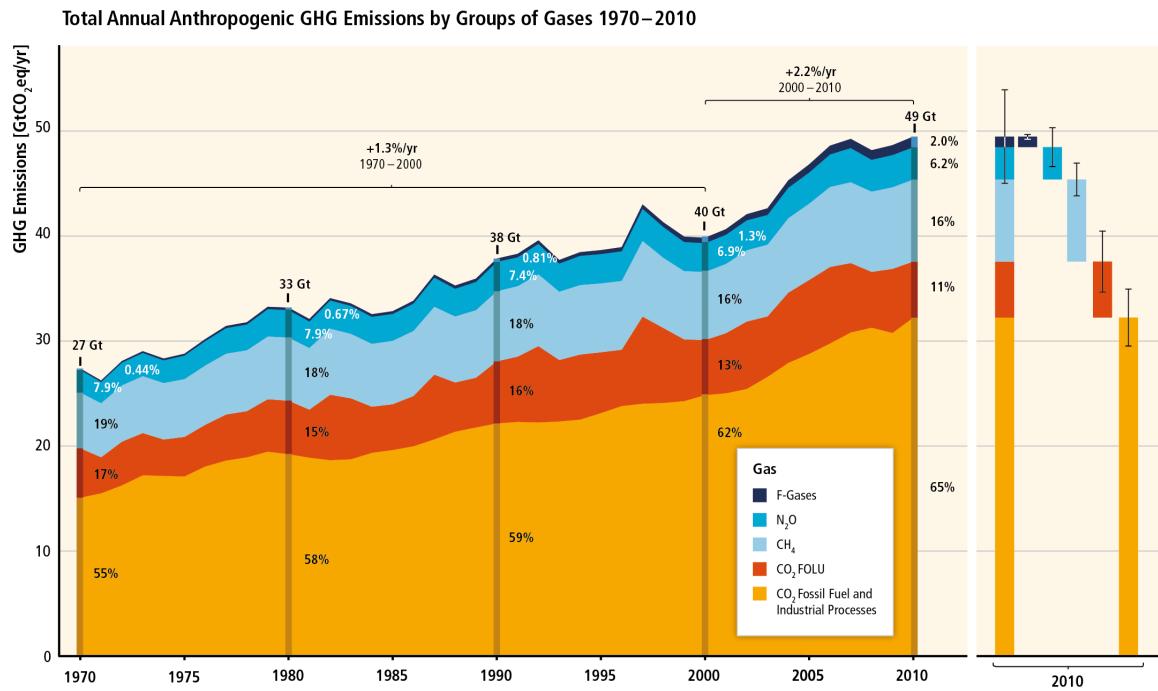
Term Climate Change and Improving Human Health and Food Security,” *Science* 335(6065):183-189, Jan. 13, 2012. Jennifer Burney, Charles Kennel, and David G. Victor, “Getting serious about the new realities of global climate change,” *Bulletin of the Atomic Scientists* 69(4):49-57, July 2013.

<sup>6</sup> Figure 1 is based on methods that are widely accepted and used by the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change, and by the United States Government. Those methods include 100-year “global warming potentials” to account for the fact that greenhouse gases differ in their impact on the climate, and in the time horizon or which the greenhouse gases live in the atmosphere. See *Working Group III Contribution to the Fifth Assessment Report of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change*, 2014, available online at: <http://www.ipcc.ch/report/ar5/wg3/>.

<sup>7</sup> Jonathan B. Wiener & Richard B. Stewart, The Comprehensive Approach to Global Climate Policy: Issues of Design and Practicality, 9 *Arizona Journal of International and Comparative Law* 83-113 (1992). David G. Victor, 1991, “Limits of Market-based Strategies for Slowing Global Warming: The Case of Tradeable Permits,” *Policy Sciences*, vol. 24, pp. 199-222. Alan D Hecht and Dennis Tirpak. Framework Agreement on Climate Change: A Scientific and Policy History. 1995. 29 *Climatic Change* 371-402.

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233

234 Figure 1: Emissions of GHGs. Figure shows emissions of different GHGs converted into  
 235 common units known as  $\text{CO}_2$ -equivalents ( $\text{CO}_2\text{e}$ ). The waterfall on the right side of the chart  
 236 indicates uncertainty in the global estimates for each of these emission sources. The percentages  
 237 listed on the chart show the portion of global total emissions accounted for by each major type of  
 238 emission at each decade. In 2010, 35% of total GHG emissions derived from sources that are  
 239 expressly excluded from Erickson's analysis, and therefore his summary statistics. Source:  
 240 Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, Working Group III Contribution to the Fifth  
 241 Assessment Report, 2014, Chapter: Summary for Policy Makers, page 7, Figure 1,  
 242 [http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/WGIIIAR5\\_SPM\\_TS\\_Volume.pdf](http://www.ipcc.ch/pdf/assessment-report/ar5/wg3/WGIIIAR5_SPM_TS_Volume.pdf).

243

244 Second, Erickson presents data on emissions from the U.S. and other countries, asserting that  
 245 "The U.S. remains the world's second largest emitter, and has been responsible for about 15% of  
 246 global  $\text{CO}_2$  emissions since 2010." (page 4) By ignoring trends over time, Erickson fails to  
 247 articulate the fact that overall U.S. emissions contributions have been declining since 2005 (see  
 248 inset to figure 2 below). With the decline in U.S. emissions, the ability of the U.S. to have an  
 249 impact on the global problem through unilateral action has declined, as well.

250

251 Figure 2 charts all GHG emissions, unlike Erickson's data which are narrowly limited to  $\text{CO}_2$   
 252 emissions from fossil fuels and industrial sources. As shown, the U.S. share of global GHG  
 253 emissions has declined over the last decade. The decline in absolute level of U.S. emissions is  
 254 due to several factors, including: (1) the shift from coal to inexpensive natural gas in the power  
 255 sector; and (2) substantial expanded investment in renewable power.<sup>8</sup> The decline in the U.S.

<sup>8</sup> See also K. Larsen, J. Larsen, W. Herndon, S. Mohan, and T. Houser, *Taking Stock 2017: Adjusting Expectations for US GHG Emissions* (Rhodium Group, 2017). Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, National  $\text{CO}_2$  Emissions from Fossil-Fuel Burning, Cement Manufacture, and Gas Flaring: 1751-2014, national-level dataset dated March 5,

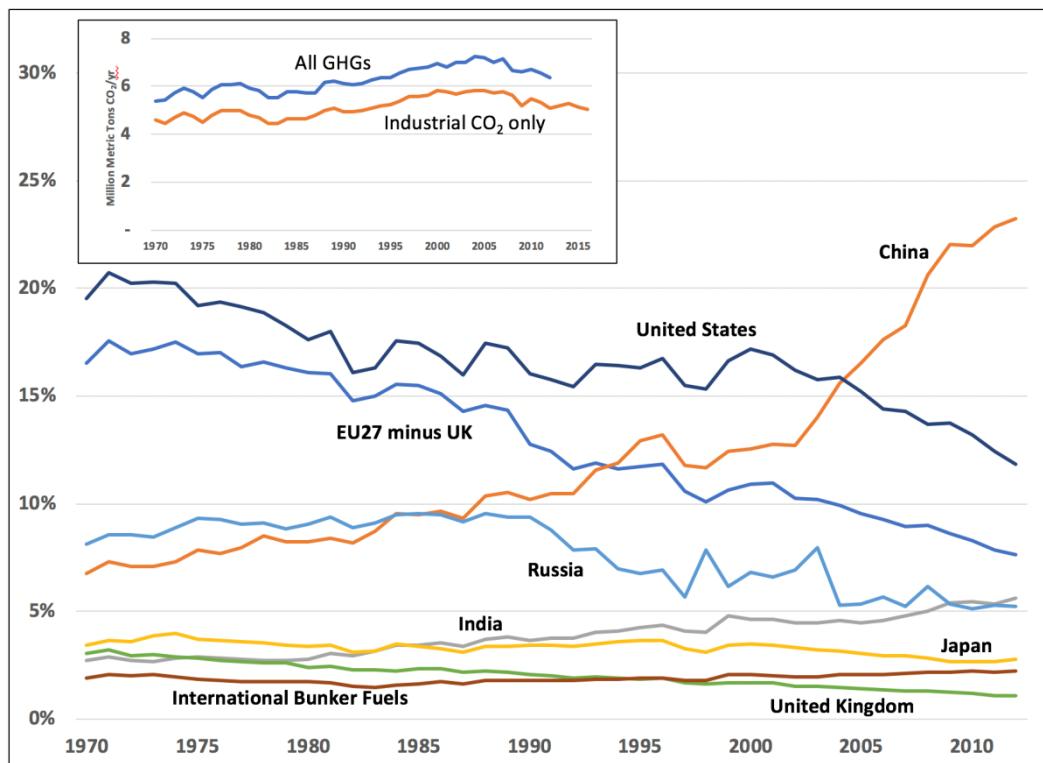
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256 share of global GHG emissions is due to two factors: (1) the decline in US absolute emissions;  
 257 and (2) the increase in absolute emissions attributable to other countries, such as China and  
 258 India.

259



260

261 *Figure 2: Share of emissions from the U.S. and other countries that have important geopolitical  
 262 impacts on efforts to cooperate on climate change, from 1970 to 2012. The timeline ends in  
 263 2012, with the U.S. share at 12%, which reflects the end point for the most reliable updates of  
 264 the global data set for GHG emissions. Data for industrial CO<sub>2</sub> extends to 2016. Inset figure  
 265 shows absolute emissions from the U.S. using two different accounting methods—top line  
 266 includes all GHGs and is comparable with the main figure; the bottom line includes only sources  
 267 of industrial CO<sub>2</sub> and is comparable with the data presented by Erickson. The “all GHGs” data  
 268 in the EDGAR data sets exclude CO<sub>2</sub> emissions from short cycle biomass burning and exclude  
 269 soot and other aerosols due to lack of data reliability and availability. The data in Figure 2 are  
 270 drawn from the EDGAR system, which is notable for its coverage and comprehensiveness;  
 271 EDGAR is the same source as that used for Figure 1.<sup>9</sup>*

2017, [http://cdiac.ess-dive.lbl.gov/ftp/ndp030/nation.1751\\_2014.ems](http://cdiac.ess-dive.lbl.gov/ftp/ndp030/nation.1751_2014.ems). These data indicate that U.S. emissions peaked at 1,578,873,000 metric tons of carbon in 2005, and have declined thereafter.

<sup>9</sup> Sources: EDGAR 4.2 FT2012 (all GHGs through 2012) and EDGAR 4.3.2 (industrial CO<sub>2</sub> up to 2016). Files are the GHG timeseries files at:

<http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/overview.php?v=42FT2012>

<http://edgar.jrc.ec.europa.eu/overview.php?v=CO2andGHG1970-2016&dst=CO2emi>

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272 My analysis indicates that even if the U.S. eliminates all of its territorial GHG emissions, and by  
 273 extension all of its CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, a substantial share (88%) of total global GHG emissions  
 274 would remain. As shown in Figure 2, the U.S. is just one of many emitters, and action to limit  
 275 climate change requires coordinated international action.

276

**277 Finding #2. IMPLEMENTING NEW CONSUMPTION-BASED ACCOUNTING METHODS FOR  
 278 GREENHOUSE GASES IS NEITHER ADMINISTRATIVELY NOR POLITICALLY STRAIGHTFORWARD**

279

280 In his Expert Report, Erickson states:

281

282       “Due to advances in the availability of trade and other economic data,  
 283 consumption-based GHG inventories are not difficult to produce – especially at  
 284 the national level, even as the concepts and models used to produce them can be  
 285 complex.” (page 11)

286

287 Erickson further states:

288

289       “The most common approach is to use global trade data, assembled in a multi-  
 290 regional input-output (MRIO) model, to estimate the flow of materials, goods, and  
 291 services throughout the world in order to fulfill the consumption of a given  
 292 country.” (page 11)

293

294 Erickson concludes:

295

296       “In my opinion, few if any technical barriers would prevent the Federal  
 297 Defendants in this case, especially the U.S. EPA or U.S. DOE, from conducting  
 298 both consumption-based and extraction-based inventories for the U.S.”

299

300 I assessed the data summarized by Erickson in his Expert Report, and examined academic efforts  
 301 to adopt consumption-based accounting systems. In my opinion, Erickson oversimplifies the  
 302 technical feasibility of the U.S. adopting a supplemental, consumption-based GHG inventory.

303 Even if feasible, Erickson fails to articulate the length of time that will be needed to design and  
 304 implement a consumption-based accounting structure that: (1) accurately reflects the full range  
 305 of GHG emissions; and (2) is implemented with data and cooperation from all significant trading  
 306 partners of the United States. Further, Erickson fails to address the most important challenge in  
 307 adopting a new accounting system – aligning the new system with border adjustments, such that  
 308 imported products face the same emission control incentives as products manufactured in the  
 309 U.S. In my expert opinion, even if the U.S. were to shift to a consumption-based accounting  
 310 system, such a shift would affect the US share of global emissions by only about 1%. I  
 311 summarize the bases for my opinions below.

312

313 I agree that, in theory, a shift in emissions accounting could shed light on the number of products  
 314 consumed in the U.S. that contribute to emissions in territories outside the U.S. However, I

---

To compute the US share, on the GHG timeseries worksheet for the EDGAR 4.2 FT2012 dataset, divide cell AS22 (US emissions in 2012, which were 6343840 metric kilotons of CO<sub>2</sub>eq) into cell AS238 (global emissions in 2012, which were 53937188 metric kilotons of CO<sub>2</sub>eq).

315 believe that any change in accounting scheme also must contemplate adjustments in border  
 316 tariffs, thereby creating the necessary incentives for all emitting firms, both global and domestic,  
 317 to control their emissions. Simply adopting a new accounting system will not have much impact  
 318 on behavior unless that system is coupled to incentives for firms and consumers to adjust their  
 319 behavior to reflect the full range of consumption-based emissions. Such border adjustments are  
 320 necessary so that U.S.-imported products face the same emission control incentives as products  
 321 manufactured within the U.S. Without a comprehensive solution that addresses this differential  
 322 in cost, the U.S. will be at an economic disadvantage vis-à-vis its international partners. This  
 323 disadvantage will make it harder to create the global incentives needed for global emission  
 324 reductions and will also exacerbate the political challenges of sustaining an effective climate  
 325 policy in the U.S.<sup>10</sup>

326

327 Erickson asserts that “consumption-based GHG inventories are not difficult to produce.” (page  
 328 11) As the basis for his opinion, Erickson presumes:

329

- 330     1. The technical computation of consumption-based statistics is “a relatively straight-  
    331         forward process” (page 11), and the “[m]ethods for conducting them have been widely  
    332         studied.” (page 13). Erickson cites to academic studies as the basis for these assertions.  
    333
- 334     2. Other jurisdictions—such as the United Kingdom<sup>11</sup> and Oregon<sup>12</sup>—have conducted  
    335         consumption-based inventory and accounting, suggesting that precedent exists and  
    336         governments have overcome the technical challenges.  
    337
- 338     3. Border adjustments and tariff implications are not an impediment to advancement by  
    339         virtue of remaining silent to such issues in his Expert Report.  
    340

341 I believe that Erickson’s logic is faulty, and he fails to appreciate the complexity of adopting and  
 342 implementing a consumption-based accounting system. Specifically, Erickson fails to recognize  
 343 that, even with the agreement of its cooperative trading partners, it would take the U.S. one to  
 344 two decades to implement an effective consumption-based accounting system. If the U.S.  
 345 trading partners are not cooperative, then I believe that such a system would take even longer.<sup>13</sup>

<sup>10</sup> Robert O. Keohane and David G. Victor, “Cooperation and discord in global climate policy,” *Nature Climate Change* 6:570-575 (2016).

<sup>11</sup> United Kingdom Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs, “UK’s Carbon Footprint 1997-2015,” available online at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/704607/Consumption\\_emissions\\_May18.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/704607/Consumption_emissions_May18.pdf).

<sup>12</sup> Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, “Consumption-based Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Oregon,” available online at: <https://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/mm/Pages/Consumption-based-GHG.aspx>

<sup>13</sup> A useful example of international cooperative engagement, and the magnitude of the challenges related to such, is the current effort by the American Institute of CPAs (AICPA) to converge International and U.S. Accounting Principles – alignment of U.S. generally-accepted accounting principles (or GAAP) and International Financial Reporting Standards (IFRS) set by the International Accounting Standards Board (IASB) in London, United Kingdom. The AICPA set a goal of “substantial completion of work” between the IASB and the Financial Accounting Standards Board (FASB) during 2013; this goal was supported by the G-20 group of countries, but convergence is still incomplete. The “Convergence Headquarters” webpage at IFRS.com, a site run by the IFRS Foundation (founded by

346 Presently, and for the foreseeable future, there are substantial technical and methodological  
 347 challenges associated with adopting a consumption-based accounting system. I discuss these  
 348 challenges in more detail below.

349

350 First, data are accessible for industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions, yet a serious and balanced policy strategy  
 351 must address the full range of GHGs. The foundational studies on consumption-based  
 352 accounting assess implications associated with industrial CO<sub>2</sub> and fail to assess other GHGs or  
 353 polluting activities. For example, the UK accounting system purports to cover all GHGs. Yet,  
 354 my assessment of the data reveals that the more detailed estimates within the UK analysis cover  
 355 only industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.<sup>14</sup> In my view, to implement consumption-based accounting in  
 356 ways that actually influence the activities contributing to emissions, a broader accounting of  
 357 GHGs is necessary than that which the current consumption-based accounting scheme can  
 358 support.

359

360 Second, all of the extant accounting efforts, which form the basis for Erickson's opinion, are  
 361 based on average emission factors. Specifically, these methods rely on average emission  
 362 coefficients (e.g., for electric power) and average estimates for emissions caused by the  
 363 production of different tradeable goods (e.g., steel, cement). This is standard practice for the  
 364 input-output data sets and models that underlie the main studies on consumption-based  
 365 accounting. Nonetheless, little attention has been paid to the limitations associated with relying  
 366 on averages.

367

368 The practical implication of emissions averaging is that particular firms that are selling or buying  
 369 products will have an incentive to claim that their production is less emissions intensive than the  
 370 average. In some cases, those claims will be accurate. In other cases, firms will simply shift  
 371 energy sources so that they assign "clean" production to traded goods, while using "dirty"  
 372 production elsewhere. For example, a firm that produces energy-intensive products in China  
 373 might claim that it is purchasing electricity from the Chinese grid with a contract that assigns  
 374 nuclear power or renewable power to that firm, with no associated emissions. Yet, electrons are  
 375 co-mingled on electric grids, and the Chinese grid, on average, is dominated by coal-fired power  
 376 plants. How can the claim from the Chinese firm about its electricity supply contract be  
 377 validated? In my view, efforts to develop consumption-based accounting systems have not

AICPA), lists a series of updates between October 2012 and February 2015, none of which indicate the achievement of full convergence. The latest progress report from the IASB and FASB on the convergence of accounting standards dates back to 2010 (accessible at [https://www.asb.or.jp/wp-content/uploads/20100706\\_11.pdf](https://www.asb.or.jp/wp-content/uploads/20100706_11.pdf)). In 2016, the SEC Chair issued a public statement stating: "While it is now clear that U.S. GAAP and IFRS will continue to coexist in our public capital markets for the foreseeable future, it is just as clear that the efforts to enhance the respective standards and reduce differences between them should continue." The full statement is accessible at: <https://www.sec.gov/news/statement/white-2016-01-05.html>. The challenge of creating convergence and reliability in emissions statistics is much greater than for financial accounting because almost none of the foundation for detailed reporting of all underlying emissions, linked to particular firms and production methods, exists whereas the task of financial accounting convergence began after a comparable foundation was already in place.

<sup>14</sup> United Kingdom Department for Environment Food & Rural Affairs, "UK's Carbon Footprint 1997-2015," available online at: [https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment\\_data/file/704607/Consumption\\_emissions\\_May18.pdf](https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/704607/Consumption_emissions_May18.pdf).

378 addressed the challenge of moving beyond simple averages, and in so doing reducing the  
 379 potential for leakage.

380

381 Simply ignoring the problem—as Erickson appears to do—raises the risk that the newly-  
 382 instituted consumption-based accounting system would be deemed inconsistent with applicable  
 383 trade law under the WTO. In practice, the WTO has allowed border measures, such as those  
 384 which would be implemented through consumption-based accounting, but only if countries  
 385 implement those border measures in ways that allow better-performing firms and governments to  
 386 be treated differently from worse-performing counterparts. In my expert opinion, accounting  
 387 systems should be designed to reflect real world behavior, and not simply rely on sectoral  
 388 averages of unknown accuracy.<sup>15</sup> Quite apart from the question of WTO compliance is the  
 389 matter of incentives. The purpose of a consumption-based accounting system is to create  
 390 incentives for particular firms and consumers to adjust their behavior and reduce emissions in a  
 391 cost-effective manner. Failure to create a sophisticated accounting system that allows individual  
 392 firms to adjust their behavior and get credit for emissions lower than the sector average would  
 393 undermine the very purpose of adopting a consumption-based accounting system in the first  
 394 place.

395

396 Third, the data needed for a global consumption-based accounting system to be effective is  
 397 substantial and obtaining such data from overseas producers would be challenging. For example,  
 398 US-based administrators could not effectively review all relevant contracts for power supply in  
 399 China in the example offered above. Although I focus on China, because its firms account for  
 400 the largest share of emissions exported by virtue of the volume of products shipped to the U.S.,  
 401 for a consumption based accounting system to work, it would need to cover all significant  
 402 trading partners of the United States. Some of the data collection apparatus exists under  
 403 implementation of cross-border tax provisions. But, a similar infrastructure does not yet exist for  
 404 the collection of global emissions factors and other needed statistics.

405

406 Further, with respect to Erickson’s use of the UK model as a salient example of a successful  
 407 consumption-based accounting system, the UK program is largely an academic, thought  
 408 experiment. The UK model is focused on providing a complementary analysis of the UK  
 409 “footprint” with respect to global climate change. The Oregon program cited by Erickson tends  
 410 to be more transparent and routinized. However, it relies completely on sectoral averages, and  
 411 for the reasons discussed above, this renders the Oregon model unreliable. In addition, the  
 412 Oregon model fails to reveal how methodological challenges will be handled when individual  
 413 producers have an incentive to deviate from those averages.<sup>16</sup>

<sup>15</sup> For example, see the World Trade Organization (WTO) Report of the Appellate Body, “United States – Import Prohibition of Certain Shrimp and Shrimp Products,” Report No. AB-1998-4, available online at:

[https://www.wto.org/english/tratop\\_e/dispu\\_e/58abr.pdf](https://www.wto.org/english/tratop_e/dispu_e/58abr.pdf). While this entrains a number of legal and political issues outside the scope of my Expert Report, I note that a member of that WTO Appellate Body (Jim Bacchus) has written extensively about how the precedents created at the WTO allow for non-discriminatory border adjustments, including the border tax adjustments discussed in this report. See James Bacchus, on behalf of the E15 Expert Group on Measures to Address Climate Change and the Trade System, “Global Rules for Mutually Supportive and Reinforcing Trade and Climate Regimes,” January 2016, available online at:

[http://www3.weforum.org/docs/E15/WEF\\_Climate\\_Change\\_POP.pdf](http://www3.weforum.org/docs/E15/WEF_Climate_Change_POP.pdf).

<sup>16</sup> For detail on the indexes see Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, “Consumption-based Greenhouse Gas Emissions Inventory for Oregon,” available online at: <https://www.oregon.gov/DEQ/mm/Pages/Consumption->

414 My assessment of the UK and Oregon models reveals that neither system collects the data  
 415 needed to move beyond sectoral averages. Further, neither system offers a vision for how such  
 416 data could be collected and audited to check for data quality. With substantial cooperation  
 417 across different jurisdictions, the necessary data infrastructure could be built, but doing so will  
 418 take time and will require engaged international coordination, because building these systems  
 419 without the cooperation of governments in exporting countries would set the system up for  
 420 failure. In my view, unilateral action by the U.S. is insufficient to achieve this goal. My opinion  
 421 is supported by assertions made by Stiglitz in his Expert Report, wherein he relies on standard  
 422 economic theory to emphasize the need to “charge” emitters “...for the negative externalities  
 423 they create, such as carbon emissions,” but also recognizes that “...the vast majority of negative-  
 424 externality carbon emissions across the globe are not priced.” (page 38). Addressing this issue  
 425 requires international engagement, such that any sovereign imposing emissions controls on  
 426 produced goods also imposes a similar burden on its international trading partners with respect to  
 427 the emissions associated with imported goods. It is my expert opinion that failure to engage with  
 428 the international community on this issue will result in a flawed consumption-based accounting  
 429 system that fails to effectively create the incentives needed for global action. Worse, poorly  
 430 implemented consumption-based accounting systems and border adjustments could trigger  
 431 retaliation and trade wars, if exporting countries feel their products are being unfairly targeted or  
 432 importing countries feel they are at an economic disadvantage. Those side-effects of shifts in  
 433 trade-related policies could compromise U.S. policy to preserve a free and fair system for trading  
 434 goods and services in global markets.

435

436 In his Expert Report, Erickson also claims that “U.S. emissions from a consumption-based  
 437 perspective have been higher than territorial emissions since about the mid-1980s, as growth in  
 438 U.S. consumption of goods has outpaced growth in manufacturing.” (page 9) However,  
 439 Erickson fails to articulate how this proportional increase actually affects the U.S. overall share  
 440 of global emissions. My assessment of the data reveals that a shift to consumption-based  
 441 accounting affected the US share of global emissions by only about 1%. I show the data and  
 442 method underpinning this calculation below.

443

444 In the early 1990s, the U.S. was a net exporter of emissions to other countries. Since 1990, the  
 445 share of heavy manufacturing has declined, and the U.S. has become a net importer of emissions.  
 446 The effect of this shift is shown in Figure 3 (Peters et al., 2011). I rely on Figure 3 as the basis of  
 447 my opinion for two reasons. First, it is consistent with the method and data used in the first  
 448 authoritative study based on consumption accounting. Second, it offers country-level data that is  
 449 sufficiently transparent to be able to assess the numerical effects of consumption-based  
 450 accounting systems.<sup>17</sup> According to the data in this study, the U.S. was a net importer of about

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[based-GHG.aspx](#), and Oregon Department of Environmental Quality, “Greenhouse Gas Emissions and Emissions Intensities for Consumption of Materials, Services, Fuels and Electricity,” October 13, 2011, available online at: <https://www.oregon.gov/deq/FilterDocs/wprSupTechRepGHGInten.pdf>.

<sup>17</sup> See: (1) GP Peters and EG Hertwich, “CO<sub>2</sub> Embodied in international trade with implications for global climate policy,” *Environmental Science & Technology*, 42(5):1401-7, Mar 1, 2008; (2) Edgar G. Hertwich and Glen P. Peters, “Carbon Footprint of Nations: A Global, Trade-Linked Analysis,” *Environmental Science & Technology*, 43(16):6414-6420, June 15, 2009. These two papers offer foundations for the Peters et al. 2001 analysis. The papers, along with the Peters et al 2011 paper, have been cited substantially in the academic community (approx., 3,000 times per Google Scholar). See also Steven Davis and Ken Caldeira, “Consumption-Based Accounting of CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions,” *Proceedings of the National Academy of Sciences of the United States of America (PNAS)* March 2010

451 480 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions annually in 2008. That is, if the U.S. adopted a  
 452 consumption-based accounting system, using the methods outlined in the Peters et al., 2011  
 453 study, U.S. emissions would have been about 480 million metric tons higher than U.S. emissions  
 454 accrued under a territorial-based accounting system.<sup>18</sup> For comparison, that 480 million metric  
 455 tons is about 8.6% of US total industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions in 2008 using territorial accounting.<sup>19</sup>  
 456

457 Thus, if the U.S. had adopted a consumption-based accounting system, such as the kind of  
 458 system advocated by Erickson's report, its emissions would rise about 8.6% above those accrued  
 459 under the territorial-based accounting system. Applying this 8.6% increase to the most recent  
 460 estimates for the US share of world emissions would raise the US share from 12% with territorial  
 461 accounting to 13% with consumption-based accounting, i.e., an increase in the overall global  
 462 share of U.S. emissions of 1%.<sup>20</sup> Concurrently, a shift from territorial-based to consumption-  
 463 based accounting systems likely would lower China's responsibility for emissions by about three

107(12):5687-92 (cited 1100 times). In addition, in his Expert Report, Erickson references four other studies that offer distinct methods and analysis:

- A) John Barrett et al., "Consumption-Based GHG Emission Accounting: A Case Study," *Climate Policy* 13, no. 4 (July 1, 2013): 451 70.
- B) Manfred Lenzen et al., "Building EORA: A Global Multi-Region Input Output Database at High Country and Sector Resolution," *Economic Systems Research* 25, no. 1(March 1, 2013): 20-49.
- C) Peter Erickson, et al., "A Consumption\_Based GHG Inventory for the U.S. State of Oregon," *Environmental Science & Technology*, 46(7):3679-3686, March 22, 2012.
- D) Kirsten S. Wiebe and Norihiko Yamano, "Estimating CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions Embodied in Final Demand and Trade Using the OECD ICIO 2015," OECD Science, Technology and Industry Working Papers (Paris: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development, September 3, 2016), available online at: <http://www.oecd-ilibrary.org/content/workingpaper/5jlrcom216xkl-en>.

These other four, measured by number of citations, have had a smaller impact on analytical research about consumption based accounting, with citations of 184, 505, 37, and 17 times (per Google Scholar). This citation analysis forms the basis for my choice of the Peters et al analysis to illustrate and elaborate my opinions in this Expert Report. This exercise is not intended to be a full assessment of the intellectual mapping of which groups and papers have had particular influence on the development of methods and analysis in this area. In my view, because the methods under development are at an early stage, and there are many different approaches and assumptions that could be applied, it is important to offer logic for why a particular study or method is used for a particular calculation.

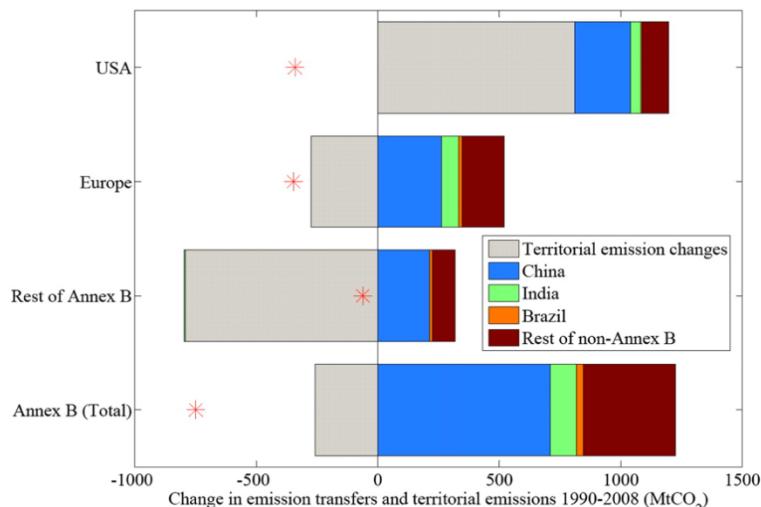
<sup>18</sup> This number reflects the change in average U.S. emissions in 2008 between territorial-based accounting and consumption based accounting, as reported in Peters et al., 2011. Specifically, Dataset S1 to Peters et al. 2011, Worksheet "7.TSTRD\_Transfers" Cell U36, indicates a 2008 "transfer," or difference between territorial- and consumption-based accounting systems of an increase of 479 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> emissions.

<sup>19</sup> This figure computed by dividing 479 million metric tons into the estimated US industrial CO<sub>2</sub> emissions are reported in the EDGAR data sources for Figure 2 of my Expert Report (5,602 million metric tons in 2008). Other sources produce similar numbers, including official US Government data: U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Table 12.1 Carbon Dioxide Emissions From Energy Consumption by Source, <https://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/browser/index.php?tbl=T12.01#/?f=A&start=1973&end=2017&charted=0-1-13>. These data indicate 2008 "total energy CO<sub>2</sub> emissions" of 5,815 million metric tons.

<sup>20</sup> This calculation requires two proportionality assumptions that underscore why it would be valuable to have reliable time-series estimates for consumption-based emissions for all GHGs, and until those estimates exist the assumption of proportionality is the best approach for calculation. I assume that the effect of 8.6% is proportional to all GHGs and that the effect of shifting to consumption based accounting for the US in 2012 would be proportional to 2008.

464 times the increase in emissions attributable to the U.S.<sup>21</sup> This shift is attributable to the fact that,  
 465 since the early 1990s, the main pattern in global trade has been the rise of China as a net  
 466 exporter, and the rise of the U.S. and Western Europe as net importers of most of China's  
 467 emissions embodied in the country's exports.

468



469

470 *Figure 3: Shift in emissions (million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub>) from 1990 to 2008 due to a shift from*  
 471 *territorial to consumption-based accounting. The top bar of the figure shows the rise in US*  
 472 *territorial emissions (grey bars) over time period of concern plus the incremental increase due to*  
 473 *emissions caused by products that are imported to the U.S. from China (blue bar), India (green*  
 474 *bar) and other developing countries. Source: Peters et al PNAS (2011, Figure 3).*

475

### 476 **FINDING #3. US FEDERAL ENERGY SUBSIDIES HAVE A SMALL AND DECLINING** 477 **IMPACT ON US TERRITORIAL ENERGY PRODUCTION**

478

479 When discussing U.S. subsidies, Erickson focuses predominantly on domestic fossil fuel  
 480 production, suggesting that U.S. subsidization of energy is dominated by fossil fuels. (page 13)  
 481 Notably, in Table 2 of his Expert Report, Erickson summarizes fossil fuel-related, direct  
 482 subsidies compiled by the US for the Group of Twenty (G20). (page 14) Erickson relies on the  
 483 data presented in Table 2 to highlight the magnitude of the spend made by the U.S. to subsidize  
 484 the fossil fuel infrastructure and production. In my expert opinion, Erickson's use and summary  
 485 of these data misleads the reader in two ways.

486

<sup>21</sup> See Dataset S1 to Peters et al 2011, Worksheet "7. TSTRD Transfers" Cells U36 and U52. China's estimated difference in 2008 between the territorial- and consumption-based accounting systems yields a decrease of 1,329 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> (Cell U52); the corresponding difference for the United States is 479 million metric tons (Cell U36).  $1,329 / 479 = 2.77$ , i.e., China's decrease in emissions from shifting from a territorial-based to a consumption-based accounting system is approximately three times as large as the United States' increase from this shift. Other authoritative studies lead to similar conclusions, but, as befits research projects where the underlying data about emission factors and trade patterns are contested, there remains uncertainty. For example, Davis and Caldeira 2010 report net imports of emissions into the United States from overseas (exclusive of intermediate goods) at about 600 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> per year.

487 First, it is important to put the total subsidy spend into perspective. Using the same numbers  
 488 quoted by Erickson (\$4.8b of subsidy in 2015, mainly for oil and gas (page 13)), the total market  
 489 value of oil produced in the U.S. in 2015 was about \$172b,<sup>22</sup> and the value of produced natural  
 490 gas was about \$73b.<sup>23</sup> In total, US oil and gas producers extract commodities worth \$245b per  
 491 year. The subsidy embodied in the output is only about 1.9% of the total market value of  
 492 production.<sup>24</sup> In my view, subsidies worth that tiny fraction of the total value are not material to  
 493 an industry whose prices can swing many multiples of this percentage in a financial quarter.  
 494

495 Second, total energy subsidies include all forms of energy, not just fossil fuels, as suggested by  
 496 the focus placed by Erickson in Table 2 of his Expert Report. Total subsidies are much larger  
 497 and more nuanced than the simple direct expenditures summarized in Table 2.<sup>25</sup> In my opinion,  
 498 by focusing on fossil fuel subsidies reported to the G20, Erickson cherry-picks just one element  
 499 of the total subsidies picture. The data reported to the G20 was part of a policy exercise  
 500 specifically focused on fossil fuel subsidies. In so doing, Erickson ignores the richer array of  
 501 evidence that provides a complete picture of subsidies across the energy sector. Similarly, in his  
 502 Expert Report, Stiglitz misleads the reader by focusing on fossil fuel subsidies, not  
 503 acknowledging the full array of energy subsidies, and ignoring the shift in U.S. subsidy strategy  
 504 away from fossil fuels and toward renewables. For example, Stiglitz asserts:  
 505

506       “...for at least 40 years...direct and indirect subsidies to fossil fuel producers hinder thea  
 507       doption of renewable energy and improvements in renewable energy technologies.” (page  
 508       38-39)

509

510 As the basis for this assertion, Stiglitz cites an attachment to a 1978 memo from Jim Schlesinger  
 511 to President Carter. Stiglitz offers no citations either to current retrospective analysis, (e.g., a

<sup>22</sup> This is the simple volumetric calculation that multiples US. output for 2015 (9.4 million barrels per day, per U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, U.S. Field Production of Crude Oil, 2015 at 9,408 thousand barrels per day, available online at:

<https://www.eia.gov/dnav/pet/hist/LeafHandler.ashx?n=pet&s=mcrfpus2&f=a>) by approximate average price for the year (\$50/bbl—slightly higher than West Texas Intermediate (WTI) at \$49/barrel and slightly lower than Brent at \$52/barrel, per U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, “Crude oil prices started 2015 relatively low, ended the year lower,” January 6, 2016, available online at:

<https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=24432>).  $9,408,000 \times 365 \times \$50 = \$171,696,000,000$ , or approximately \$172 billion.

<sup>23</sup> Calculated based on U.S. gas production of 79 billion cubic feet (bcf) per day (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, “U.S. natural gas production reaches record high in 2015,” April 15, 2016, available online at: <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=25832>) and a wholesale Henry Hub price averaging \$2.61 per million British thermal unit (MBBtu) that year (U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, “Average annual natural gas spot price in 2015 was at lowest level since 1999,” January 5, 2016, available online at: <https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=24412>). 79 bcf is equal to 76.3 trillion BTU (conversion factor 0.966), or simply 76,300,000 million BTU.  $76.3 \times 365 \times \$2.61 = \$72.687$  billion, or approximately \$73 billion.

<sup>24</sup> \$4.8 billion divided by \$245 billion yields approximately 0.02.

<sup>25</sup> The U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, provides an array of studies that assess the state of governmental financial interventions and subsidies relevant to energy markets. See U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, “Direct Federal Financial Interventions and Subsidies in Energy in Fiscal Year 2015,” March 12, 2015, available online at: <https://www.eia.gov/analysis/requests/subsidy/dmeess.php>.

512 time series analysis of subsidy reform), or to relevant policy and analytical research on  
 513 renewables and energy efficiency subsidies. Since 1978 a lot has happened, notably in shifting  
 514 direct subsidies away from fossil fuels and toward renewables and energy efficiency. He notes,  
 515 approvingly, that the price of solar panels is dropping (page 28). However, Stiglitz does not  
 516 indicate that those declines are, in part, due to the direct subsidies that the U. S., Germany, China  
 517 and other countries have offered and continue to offer to producers as well as purchasers of  
 518 renewable energy equipment, along with a host of other reforms that have made it easier to  
 519 connect solar electricity supplies to the grid. Instead, Stiglitz offers a hypothetical thought  
 520 experiment as to the kind of redress that is appropriate without any foundational basis:

521

522        “If Defendants stopped providing subsidies and/or implemented carbon pricing policies  
 523        that allow the U.S. government to further fund research and development of green  
 524        technologies to decarbonize the economy, such measures would have a large positive  
 525        impact in the long term...” (page 39)

526

527 In my opinion, if Erickson or Stiglitz were to analyze the breadth of U.S. subsidies, they would  
 528 concede a different perspective of U.S. policy with respect to subsidy and preferential treatment  
 529 of renewables vis-à-vis fossil fuels. Challenges exist in conducting a meta analysis of this sort.  
 530 Determining what constitutes a subsidy can be difficult, and accessing the relevant data  
 531 necessitates engaging with many sections of the federal government. Mindful of these  
 532 challenges, I elect to rely on the most recent (2012) systematic analysis by the Congressional  
 533 Budget Office (CBO), which compiled a wide array of direct subsidies by energy source.<sup>26</sup> I  
 534 choose to focus on direct subsidies, because the quantitative information in Erickson’s Expert  
 535 Report focuses on a selection of direct subsidies related to the production of fossil fuels.

536

537 A key finding from the CBO analysis is that tax-based subsidies dominate total federal support  
 538 for energy sources. The CBO is systematic in their analysis of tax-based subsidies, which helps  
 539 to frame the tax treatment of fossil fuels; starting with this kind of systematic analysis lowers the  
 540 risk that statistics will be cherry-picked to favor one particular finding. As I previously stated,  
 541 fossil fuels dominate Erickson’s analysis of subsidies, particularly with respect to Table 2 of  
 542 Expert Report.<sup>27</sup> Figure 4, below, reproduces the CBO’s key findings with respect to tax-based  
 543 subsidies.

544

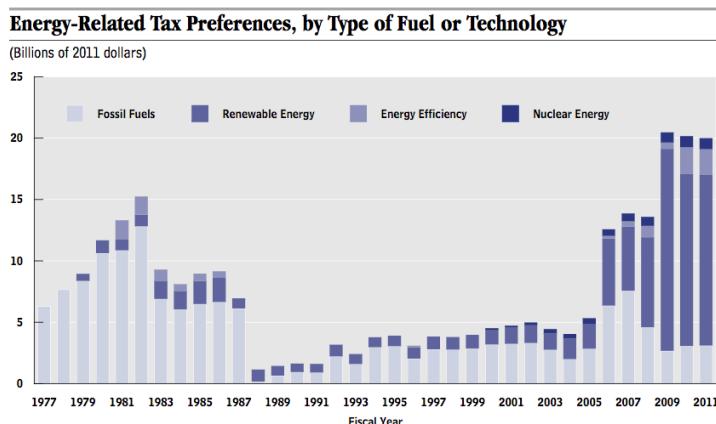
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<sup>26</sup> U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>. In addition, the Congressional Research Service and the Office of Management and Budget have completed cross-sectoral studies of U.S. energy subsidies.

<sup>27</sup> The accounting methods used in U.S. Government, “United States Self-Review of Fossil Fuel Subsidies” (Submitted December 2015 to the G-20 Peer Reviewers, December 2015), <http://www.oecd.org/site/tadffss/publication/>, which informs Table 2 of Erickson’s Expert Report differ from those used in the CBO’s analysis. For a more detailed comparison, contrast Table 2 of Erickson’s Expert Report with Table 1 in U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>.

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**Expert Report. David G. Victor**

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545

546 *Figure 4: Energy-Related Tax Subsidies, by Type of Fuel or Technology (billions 2011 USD).*

547 *Figure reports data from 1977 through 2011, the time period of concern in the CBO study<sup>28</sup>.*

548

549 Although the data captured by the CBO study is through 2011, and the data relied upon by  
 550 Erickson from the G20 study is through 2015, a clear message emerges. While the CBO analysis  
 551 is systematic, the Erickson analysis relies on cherry-picked subsidy statistics that focus on fossil  
 552 energy subsidies, belying the larger picture. As the CBO study makes clear, most of the direct  
 553 subsidy spend by the US on energy (as computed through tax preferences) is focused on  
 554 renewables, not fossil fuels. Specifically, according to the CBO study, the portion of 2011 tax  
 555 preferences (subsidies) attributable to fossil fuels is about \$2.5b.<sup>29</sup> Whereas, the portion  
 556 attributable to renewables is about \$12.9b; wherein \$6.9b is attributable to biofuels (ethanol and  
 557 biodiesel), and the remaining \$6b is attributable to other renewable power sources, such as solar  
 558 and wind.<sup>30</sup>

559

560 In my opinion, it is instructive to normalize these amounts of tax-based subsidies according to  
 561 production of fuels. As a fraction of the total U.S. energy supply, in 2011, fossil fuels accounted

<sup>28</sup> Source: U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>, based on data from Molly F. Sherlock, Energy Tax Policy: Historical Perspectives on and Current Status of Energy Tax Expenditures, CRS Report for Congress R41227 (Congressional Research Service, May 2, 2011), p. 26; Joint Committee on Taxation, Estimates of Federal Tax Expenditures for Fiscal Years 2011-2015 (JCS-1-12, January 17, 2012)pp. 33-35; Office of Management and Budget, Budget of the U.S. Government, Fiscal Year 2013: Appendix (Feb 2012), p. 1068.

<sup>29</sup> U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>. Within Table 1 (p. 3), the tax preferences for fossil fuels sum to \$2.5 billion, or \$0.8 billion + \$0.8 billion + \$0.9 billion

<sup>30</sup> U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>. Within Table 1 (p. 3), the tax preferences for renewable energy sum to \$12.9 billion (\$1.4 + \$0.7 + \$6.1 + \$0.8 + \$3.9).

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562 for 78% of total U.S. primary energy supply and received 12% in tax-based subsidies.<sup>31,32</sup> In  
 563 2011, new renewable energy technologies including wind, solar and biomass accounted for  
 564 7.8% of U.S. primary energy supply and received 63% in tax-based subsidies. The numbers for  
 565 renewables are distorted by U.S. biofuels policy.<sup>33,34</sup> Nonetheless, my assessment reveals that  
 566 proportional to U.S. energy output, the tax-related subsidy for new renewables, in 2011, was  
 567 over 50 times the level of tax-related subsidies for fossil fuels.<sup>35</sup> This assessment reveals that,  
 568 when properly analyzed, U.S. subsidies have shifted, and continue to shift, in the direction of  
 569 energy sources that require market support, and are favored as contributing elements of a  
 570 diversified energy portfolio.

571

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<sup>31</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Table 1.2 Primary Energy Production by Source, available online at:

<https://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/browser/index.php?tbl=T01.02#/?f=A&start=1949&end=2017&charted=1-2-3-4-6-13>. Data indicate that total fossil fuel-based energy production in 2011 was 60.543191 quadrillion Btu, compared to 78.035874 total energy production, or approximately 77.58 percent.

<sup>32</sup> U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>. Within Table 1 (p. 3), the tax preferences for fossil fuels sum to \$2.5 billion, or \$0.8 billion + \$0.8 billion + \$0.9 billion. \$2.5 billion divided by total 2011 energy-related tax preference as reported in Table 1, or \$20.5 billion, yields 0.122, or approximately 12 percent.

<sup>33</sup> U.S. Department of Energy, Energy Information Administration, Table 1.2 Primary Energy Production by Source, available online at:

<https://www.eia.gov/totalenergy/data/browser/index.php?tbl=T01.02#/?f=A&start=1949&end=2017&charted=1-2-3-4-6-13>. Data indicate that total renewables-based energy production in 2011 was 9.223985 quadrillion Btu; of that total 3.102852 quadrillion BTU equivalents came from hydroelectricity. I exclude hydroelectricity from my calculation of the “renewables” subsidy share, because: (a) there is relatively little tax preference allocated to hydro, and (b) most studies about the potential for shifting to renewable energy (and the need for policy supporting that shift) focus on what are often called “new renewables,” which is a concept that explicitly excludes the large hydro plants that account for nearly all US hydroelectricity production. That leaves 6.121133 quadrillion BTU of renewables output, compared to 78.035874 total energy production, or approximately 7.84 percent. The data available do not support disentangling the federal tax preferences for hydroelectricity that might be included in the CBO analysis.

<sup>34</sup> U.S. Congressional Budget Office, “Federal Financial Support for the development and Production of Fuels and Energy Technologies,” Issue Brief, March 2012, available online at: <https://www.cbo.gov/sites/default/files/112th-congress-2011-2012/reports/03-06-fuelsandenergybrief.pdf>. Within Table 1 (p. 3), the tax preferences for renewables sum to \$12.9 billion (\$1.4 + \$0.7 + \$6.1 + \$0.8 + \$3.9). \$12.9 billion divided by total 2011 energy-related tax preference as reported in Table 1, or \$20.5 billion, yields 0.629, or approximately 63 percent.

<sup>35</sup> \$2.5 billion in tax preference relative to 60.543191 quadrillion Btu of energy produced in 2011 yields approximately \$0.041292835 billion in tax preference per quadrillion Btu of fossil fuel energy produced. \$12.9 billion in tax preference to 6.122 quadrillion Btu of energy produced in 2011 yields approximately \$2.107453 billion in tax preference per quadrillion Btu of renewables-based energy produced. \$2.107453 / \$0.041292385 = 51.04, or approximately a factor of 51. (If this calculation is performed to include hydroelectricity, then the result is a factor of approximately 34.)

**572 Finding #4. CHANGING FEDERAL SUBSIDIES ON OIL WILL HAVE MINIMAL  
573 IMPACT ON GLOBAL OIL PRICES, OIL CONSUMPTION AND EMISSIONS**

574

575 In his Expert Report, Erickson states:

576

577        "... with prices at or near \$50 per barrel, the U.S. government is substantially  
578        expanding the country's future oil production, relative to if these subsidies were  
579        not in place." (page 16)

580

581 Erickson concludes:

582

583        "... it is my professional opinion that, at least for oil, Federal Government  
584        subsidies are likely to both increase oil industry profits and increase U.S. oil  
585        production. Both of these outcomes make it more difficult for the U.S. to  
586        transition to a low-carbon economy and meet domestic and international climate  
587        goals ..." (page 16)

588

589 In his Expert Report, Stiglitz echoes these views as part of a broader claim that the U.S. is  
590 engaged in a "perpetuation of a national fossil-fuel based energy system." (page 7) Stiglitz fails  
591 to provide a well-founded basis for this opinion. I focus on the assertions made by Erickson  
592 regarding the impact of subsidies on oil production, because they are quantitative and based on a  
593 model analysis, for which the underlying assumptions about the factors that affect production can  
594 be scrutinized and compared with the literature.

595

596 In my view, Erickson has selectively targeted data and tailored his methods to inflate the  
597 beneficial impacts of subsidy reform on U.S. consumption of fossil fuels, and associated  
598 reductions in emissions contributions. My assessment of Erickson's research indicates that  
599 Erickson mines the facts to support his arguments about the impact of subsidies on oil  
600 production. Specifically, Erickson is conspicuously silent about the range of expert views on the  
601 matter of subsidy reform in the oil sector. Erickson limits the bases of his opinions to illustrative  
602 calculations from one set of studies (for which Erickson is co-author). Yet other reputable  
603 studies, including studies that Erickson himself cites, point to different conclusions. Based on  
604 my examination of these other studies, I conclude that the effect of oil subsidy reforms on  
605 emissions will be much smaller than suggested by Erickson, because other factors have a much  
606 larger impact on production decisions, the industry is highly competitive and responsive to  
607 changes in market conditions and production costs. In addition, relative to the size of the sector,  
608 the impact on the total financial picture of the industry is extremely small (on the order of 1% of  
609 turnover, as I describe below). Below, I detail the three bases for my conclusions.

610

611 First, Erickson's findings are based on a thought exercise that is not reflective of reality.  
612 Erickson's thought exercise is predicated on substantial changes to the U.S. tax code to remove  
613 all subsidies related to fossil fuels while leaving subsidies that affect the rest of the energy  
614 system untouched. Moreover, Erickson's Report is misleading, because he offers his opinions in  
615 the context of altering relatively narrow tax measures. Yet, to support his opinions he relies on a  
616 modeling study that actually adopts an expansive notion of subsidy, which includes topics such  
617 as liability transfers to the government for closure of oil wells, transfer of railroad safety risks to  
618 the public, public funding of the strategic petroleum reserve, public coverage of damage to roads,

619 and a host of other measures.<sup>36</sup> On page 14, Erickson presents Table 2, which lists direct  
 620 subsidies for coal, oil and gas—subsidies that he calls “tax measures” (line 602). Then on page  
 621 15, Erickson points to other industry and academic studies that examine these “tax measures.” As  
 622 a means of further comparison, Erickson then turns to his own opinion, relying notably on a  
 623 peer-reviewed 2017 publication in *Nature Energy*.<sup>37</sup> In fact, the modeling methods and data  
 624 utilized in the *Nature Energy* paper are not limited to tax measures but rely on Erickson’s more  
 625 expansive notion of subsidies. Through this sleight of language in Erickson’s Expert Report, the  
 626 reader is left with the impression that, at oil prices of \$50/barrel, as Erickson says of his team’s  
 627 analysis: “...we found that 47% of new U.S. oil investment would depend on subsidies to  
 628 proceed.” (page 15). This statement reports data from his *Nature Energy* paper<sup>38</sup> that, in fact, is  
 629 based on model runs that assume his fully expansive view of subsidies. In his Expert Report,  
 630 Erickson then returns to the narrow definition of tax measures, comments on the effect of  
 631 intangible drilling costs (a tax measure), and draws the general conclusion: “...the U.S.  
 632 government is substantially expanding the country’s future oil production, relative to if these  
 633 subsidies were not in place.” (page 16). Erickson never explains (either in his Expert Report, or  
 634 in the published materials that he cites) how much of the effect is due to tax measures and how  
 635 much hinges on his more expansive notion of subsidies. As a result, the reader is left wondering  
 636 how the scope of Erickson’s analysis compares with the assertions made in his Expert Report.  
 637 For these reasons, I believe that Erickson’s assertions on these matters are unsupported and  
 638 unreliable.

639

640 For Erickson’s thought exercise to be successful, expansive changes would be needed not just in  
 641 federal policy, but also to state tax codes and local zoning ordinances associated with  
 642 infrastructure improvements. If there were substantial changes in federal policy then states and  
 643 localities also would respond, often with counter-acting effects. Yet, in his Expert Report,  
 644 Erickson is silent on the breadth of policy intervention that his thought exercise would  
 645 necessitate and also silent on possible counter-vailing responses. It is only upon examination of  
 646 the underlying technical documentation that informs Erickson’s analysis that the breadth of  
 647 intervention becomes clear.<sup>39</sup> Further, it is only upon examination of the underlying  
 648 fundamentals of Erickson’s analysis that one understands the degree to which Erickson’s  
 649 findings rely on unilateral or binary assumptions—if all subsidies were removed, then a preferred  
 650 outcome arises. Common sense dictates that policy intervention involves various slopes (or

<sup>36</sup> See table 1 of P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, “Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production,” *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017) And for more detail see supplemental materials to that article at Supplementary information is available for this paper at <https://doi.org/10.1038/s41560-017-0009-8>.

<sup>37</sup> P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, “Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production,” *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017)

<sup>38</sup> See table 2 of P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, “Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production,” *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017)

<sup>39</sup> In particular, the appendix to the 2017 Working Paper that offers more detail on See P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow. Effect of government subsidies for upstream oil infrastructure on U.S. oil production and global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. 2017. Stockholm Environment Institute Working Paper 2017-02. I rely on that working paper because it offers a fuller assessment of the modeling work and how it compares with other studies than is available in the supplemental materials to the published peer-reviewed article from the same study team, which are available at: <https://doi.org/10.1038/>.

s41560-017-0009-8.

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651 degrees) of change. In his expert report, Erickson does not contemplate, or analyze the impact  
 652 of, degrees of change arising from his proposed policy intervention(s).

653

654 Second, Erickson frames the basis for his argument in general terms of supply and demand and  
 655 points to other industry and academic studies that, he implies, offer supportive conclusions. For  
 656 example, he begins his comparison of other studies with the statement “[t]here is evidence that  
 657 these tax measures positively affect fossil fuel industry profits and investment...” (page 14)

658 Perhaps this is a fair statement, because it is so general; but the details can have a large impact on  
 659 the conclusions. My examination of the existing literature suggests that the existing literature  
 660 nuanced. Reasonable disagreement exists as to whether subsidy reform would have a material  
 661 impact on U.S. oil production.

662

663 Before presenting his results, Erickson points to two others studies that have examined how tax-  
 664 based subsidies might affect behavior in the industry. Other materials published by Erickson and  
 665 his co-authors allow some detailed comparison between his opinion and these two published  
 666 studies.<sup>40</sup> My analysis of these comparisons suggests that the differences across the studies are  
 667 large. Notably, I believe that this is something that Erickson has found in his own published  
 668 research, yet he elects to not mention or explain these differences in his Expert Report. The first  
 669 study was completed by Dr. Gilbert Metcalf, a highly respected economist; the second study  
 670 was completed by Wood Mackenzie, a highly respected energy research and consultancy  
 671 group.<sup>41</sup>

672

673 The study completed by Metcalf has the benefit of being straightforward. Specifically, at  
 674 prevailing oil prices of \$50/bbl, Erickson's studies suggest that 72% of the onshore projects by  
 675 independent oil producers depend on the presence of subsidies,<sup>42</sup> whereas Metcalf concludes that  
 676 just 8% of the onshore independent producers on subsidy for their decision to drill.<sup>43</sup> Offshore,

<sup>40</sup> P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow. Effect of government subsidies for upstream oil infrastructure on U.S. oil production and global CO2 emissions. 2017. Stockholm Environment Institute Working Paper 2017-02.

<sup>41</sup> These comparisons are referenced in the appendices (Tables A-5 and A-6) to a working paper that Erickson cites as technical support for the oil market model, and which he uses as the basis for his Expert Report. See P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow. Effect of government subsidies for upstream oil infrastructure on U.S. oil production and global CO2 emissions. 2017. Stockholm Environment Institute Working Paper 2017-02.

<sup>42</sup> See P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow. Effect of government subsidies for upstream oil infrastructure on U.S. oil production and global CO2 emissions. 2017. Stockholm Environment Institute Working Paper 2017-02., Table A-5, p. 47. See also P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, "Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production," Nature Energy 2:891-898 (2017)

<sup>43</sup> Gilbert E. Metcalf, "The Impact of Removing Tax Preferences for U.S. Oil and natural Gas Production: Measuring Tax Subsidies by an Equivalent Price Impact Approach," NBER Working Paper Series, NBER, August 2016, available online at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22537.pdf>. See Table 5, p. 40, which indicates that the change in drilling rates for independent on shore oil producers is an 8.2 decrease (given an absence of subsidy). For consistency I will cite the NBER version of the paper because that is what Erickson cited, but the more authoritative version is peer-reviewed and published: Gilbert E. Metcalf. "The Impact of Removing Tax Preferences for U.S. Oil and Gas Production" *Journal of the Association of Environmental and Resource Economists* Vol. 5 Iss. 1 (2017) p. 1 – 37. Doi: 10.1086/693367

677 the differences are even larger. Specifically, according to Erickson's research, 100% of  
 678 independent offshore drilling depends on subsidy,<sup>44</sup> whereas Metcalf concludes that just 17% of  
 679 independent offshore drilling depends on subsidy.<sup>45</sup>

680

681 Erickson's Expert Report suggests that his findings are consistent with "university and research  
 682 studies" (page 15), wherein he specifically cites to the Metcalf study (page 15, FN 33).

683 However, as per the parameters summarized above, my assessment of the Metcalf analysis  
 684 suggests a conclusion that is opposite to that proffered by Erickson. Specifically, at least for oil,  
 685 the Metcalf study suggests that Federal government subsidies have little impact on U.S. oil  
 686 production because most of the types of wells drilled for new production (onshore and offshore)  
 687 are profitable without subsidies.

688

689 In addition, Erickson cites three times to a policy brief by Joe Aldy, implying a further  
 690 consistency between his opinion and that of other experts. (Aldy is an economist—formerly in  
 691 the U.S. Government and now at Harvard's Kennedy School.) My examination of the Aldy brief  
 692 suggests that, in fact, it is not consistent with Erickson's position. Specifically, Aldy concludes  
 693 that oil production subsidies "have a very small impact on production, their removal will not  
 694 materially increase retail fuel prices, reduce employment, or weaken U.S. energy security."<sup>46</sup>

695

696 With regard to the study completed by Wood Mackenzie, which Erickson discussed only in  
 697 passing in his Expert Report, the key question of concern is whether preferential tax treatment  
 698 associated with Intangible Drilling Costs (IDC) has a material impact on oil production, prices,  
 699 oil consumption, and by extension emissions contribution. The oil industry is attentive to IDC,  
 700 because it is the largest single subsidy for oil and gas production. In Erickson's own study  
 701 published in *Nature Energy*, he and his co-authors also find that IDC has the single largest  
 702 impact on the IRR that they estimate for new drilling.<sup>47</sup> For example, in 2015, it accounted for

<sup>44</sup> See P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow. Effect of government subsidies for upstream oil infrastructure on U.S. oil production and global CO<sub>2</sub> emissions. 2017. Stockholm Environment Institute Working Paper 2017-02., Table A-5, p. 47, Table A-5, p. 47.

<sup>45</sup> Gilbert E. Metcalf, "The Impact of Removing Tax Preferences for U.S. Oil and natural Gas Production: Measuring Tax Subsidies by an Equivalent Price Impact Approach," NBER Working Paper Series, NBER, August 2016, available online at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22537.pdf>. See Table 5, p. 40, which indicates that the change in drilling rates for independent on shore oil producers is an 8.2 decrease (given an absence of subsidy). There are many differences between the models that can explain these results, not least of which is the fact that the Metcalf results are presented independent of price, whereas Erickson's team presents their own model with price-dependent results. The Metcalf study is presented in a working paper by an academic foreign policy think tank (The Council on Foreign Relations—I am a member of that organization), and the Erickson detailed studies are presented in a working paper by a think tank, with which he is affiliated (Stockholm Environment Institute). Neither of these working papers appears to be reviewed in the manner typical of academic journals, and neither author has been asked to do the detailed model-by-model comparisons that are typical in the energy modeling community.

<sup>46</sup> Joseph E. Aldy, "Report: Eliminating Fossil Fuel Subsidies," February 26, 2013, Proposal 5 in Brookings Institution, "15 Ways to Rethink the Federal Budget," published February 22, 2013, available online at: <https://www.brookings.edu/research/eliminating-fossil-fuel-subsidies/>.

<sup>47</sup> See the waterfall charts in figure 2 of P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, "Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production," *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017),

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703 \$1.6b/yr in subsidy.<sup>48</sup> But this amount must be kept in perspective. As a measure of  
 704 comparison, \$1.6b/yr is 0.6% of the produced value of oil and gas in the U.S.<sup>49</sup>

705

706 In my view, the issue of concern is not whether the oil industry would prefer to preserve a  
 707 preferential tax treatment, but rather whether eliminating the preferential treatment (or subsidy)  
 708 for IDC has a material impact on oil production. I discuss the particulars of this study by Wood  
 709 Mackenzie, and its relevance to Erickson's opinion in more detail below.

710

711 First, Erickson's own research—published elsewhere, but not discussed in his Expert Report—  
 712 reveals that the magnitude of effects in the Wood Mackenzie model differ from those in  
 713 Erickson's model by a factor of two or more.<sup>50</sup> By citing the Wood Mackenzie model as a basis  
 714 for his opinion, yet offering an opinion that deviates substantially from that study, Erickson  
 715 confounds the question of the impact of subsidies on production. Given the breadth of  
 716 uncertainty raised by the differences in subsidy effects analyzed in the Erickson, Metcalf, and  
 717 Wood Mackenzie studies, the actual impacts of subsidies on oil production appear to be a matter  
 718 of substantial debate. In my view, the degrees of difference between all three analysis reinforce  
 719 that Erickson's opinion, as proffered in his Expert Report is unreliable.

720

721 Second, the scope of the Wood Mackenzie study is different than that of Erickson's research.  
 722 Erickson is focused on oil production; oil is a highly marketable commodity, easily transported  
 723 to market. By contrast, the Wood Mackenzie study examined the impact of IDC on oil *and* gas  
 724 drilling activity. In general, the drilling costs associated with gas wells tend to be more sensitive  
 725 to costs, and therefore more sensitive to changes in preferential tax treatment, because the price  
 726 of gas remains low in the U.S. due to the technological advances associated with shale gas  
 727 exploration. Erickson is silent on these significant methodological differences in approach  
 728 between his analysis and the Wood Mackenzie study. Given these methodological differences, it  
 729 is not self-evident that the Wood Mackenzie study supports Erickson's analysis. In my view,  
 730 across the array of studies on which Erickson relies to form the basis of his opinion, there is no  
 731 consensus on the effect of subsidies on oil production

732

733 In addition to Erickson's discussion regarding onshore drilling, which I find to be  
 734 unsubstantiated and unreliable, the modeling studies that Erickson uses as a basis for his opinion  
 735 include estimates that 73% of undeveloped offshore resources depend on subsidy to be economic  
 736 at \$50/bbl. In my view, this finding, and thus the opinions in Erickson's Report that are based in

<sup>48</sup> According to US Government estimates that are reprinted in Table 2 of Erickson's expert report.

<sup>49</sup> See discussion under Finding #3 of this report. Total market value of oil produced in the United States in 2015 was about \$172b, and the value of produced natural gas in 2015 was about \$72b. Therefore, \$1.6 billion divided by (\$172b + \$72b) yields approximately 0.0065306, or 0.6 percent. Here I focus on oil and gas together because IDC applies to both, but Erickson's analysis looks only at oil.

<sup>50</sup> The Wood Mackenzie study finds that 40% of onshore projects depend on this subsidy, compared with Erickson's own research, suggesting that 18% of onshore projects have such dependency. Offshore, the results are reversed and even larger—9% for Wood Mackenzie and 25% for the Erickson team. See Wood Mackenzie, *Impacts of Delaying IDC Deductibility* (2014-2025), prepared for the American Petroleum Institute, 2013, available online at: <http://www.api.org/~media/files/policy/taxes/13-july/api-us-idc-delay-impacts-release-7-11-13.pdf> and P.

Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, "Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production," *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017), Table A-6, p. 48.

737 part on this finding, also is unsubstantiated and unreliable. The study by Metcalf, which looked  
 738 at this issue, offers no such support for that conclusion.<sup>51</sup> Nor does one find support in the real  
 739 world. Prior to 2014, when oil prices were high, a coalition led by BP planned a \$20b offshore  
 740 oil production project in the Gulf of Mexico called “Mad Dog 2.” Co-located near an existing oil  
 741 field (Mad Dog 1), Mad Dog 2 would produce 140,000 barrels per day. When oil prices crashed  
 742 in 2014, Mad Dog 2 was idled and redesigned using more standardized platform designs and a  
 743 host of improvements that radically reduced costs. In December 2016, when oil prices were  
 744 forecasted at \$50/bbl, or about half the level prior to the price crash of 2014, BP restarted Mad  
 745 Dog 2. In announcing the venture, BP’s CEO stated: “This announcement shows that big deep  
 746 water projects can still be economic in a low-price environment in the US if they are designed in  
 747 a smart and cost-effective way.”<sup>52</sup> Although these changes are under way in the real world, in  
 748 Erickson’s peer-reviewed *Nature Energy* paper, he and his co-authors exclude offshore drilling  
 749 from the main display figure. They state: “...Very few projects for offshore Gulf of Mexico are  
 750 economic at an oil price of US \$50 per barrel, and the effect of subsidies is both small in IRR  
 751 terms and highly variable.”<sup>53</sup> Yet, it is precisely in that real-world context—oil at \$50, and  
 752 subsidies that have a small and variable effect on the internal rate of return (IRR) for offshore  
 753 drilling, that BP restarted Mad Dog 2, arguably one of the largest new oil production projects in  
 754 the Gulf of Mexico. This anecdote illustrates that the industry is accustomed to responding to  
 755 changes in the fiscal environment for projects that are forecasted to yield returns irrespective of  
 756 the contemplated elimination of direct subsidies.

757

758 In my opinion, tinkering at the margins of the fossil fuel sector with subsidy policy—even an  
 759 extreme tinkering with Erickson’s proposed realignment of the U.S. tax code—is dwarfed in  
 760 relevance by market and technological forces. Direct production subsidies are on the scale of 1%  
 761 of industry production; real technological and operational changes have responded to changes of  
 762 50% in the value of produced oil in just a few years. Further, the studies Erickson relies upon to  
 763 support his arguments fail to evince a clear relationship between subsidy policy and oil  
 764 production.

765

#### **766 Finding #5. CHANGING FEDERAL COAL LEASING POLICIES WILL HAVE SMALL 767 EFFECTS ON US CONSUMPTION OF COAL AND EMISSIONS CONTRIBUTIONS**

768

769 In his Expert Report, Erickson states:

770

771       “...federal land leasing practices show how the Federal Government plays a  
 772       significant role in aiding and facilitating U.S. fossil fuel extraction” (page 19)  
 773

774 Essentially, Erickson asserts that the U.S. subsidizes fossil fuel extraction by leasing federal  
 775 lands to industry actors, and failing to charge lessees the *full* cost of extraction from federal

<sup>51</sup> Gilbert E. Metcalf, “The Impact of Removing Tax Preferences for U.S. Oil and natural Gas Production: Measuring Tax Subsidies by an Equivalent Price Impact Approach,” NBER Working Paper Series, NBER, August 2016, available online at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22537.pdf>.

<sup>52</sup> Jessica Tippee, “Re-engineered Mad Dog Phase 2 gets the greenlight,” *Offshore*, January 2, 2018, available online at: <https://www.offshore-mag.com/articles/print/volume-77/issue-12/top-offshore-projects/re-engineering-mad-dog-phase-2-gets-the-greenlight.html>.

<sup>53</sup> See caption to figure 2 on page 894: P. Erickson, A. Down, M. Lazarus, D. Koplow, “Effect of subsidies to fossil fuel companies on United States crude oil production,” *Nature Energy* 2:891-898 (2017)

776 lands. Erickson, in particular, focuses his analysis of leasing reform on coal. In his Expert  
 777 Report, Stiglitz offers supporting comments for coal leasing reforms that would charge producers  
 778 the full costs of extraction from federal lands, including charges for the harm caused by GHG  
 779 emissions (page 36); Stiglitz asserts that the U.S. should “cease approvals for any new fossil fuel  
 780 infrastructure.” (page 39)

781

782 I examine the impacts of coal leasing reforms as asserted by Erickson in his Expert Report,  
 783 because this is the area where it is possible to compare Erickson’s assertions with leasing reform  
 784 proposals that have been the subject of quantitative examination by other analysts. The issue at  
 785 hand is whether eliminating federal leasing practices for coal extraction would have a material  
 786 impact on the U.S. output of coal, the price of coal, and thus coal consumption and attendant  
 787 emissions contributions in the U.S. I believe that the research on this issue is nuanced and  
 788 largely unsupportive of Erickson’s findings. I discuss the basis for my opinion below.

789

790 First, it is difficult to evaluate the data and methods used by Erickson, and therefore substantiate  
 791 his conclusions regarding federal leasing reform. Erickson does not offer a model-based analysis  
 792 as the basis for his views, nor does he offer the findings of an independent literature review.

793 Instead, Erickson appears to base his conclusion on the logic of supply and demand; he suggests  
 794 that leasing reforms will constrain supply, prices will then go up, and demand must go down.

795 He observes that the impact of leasing reforms on fuel prices and CO<sub>2</sub> emissions “depends on  
 796 one’s view of how fuel markets operate” (page 18). Yet, Erickson’s analysis includes no serious  
 797 attention to how the coal market actually functions. The users of coal (mainly electric utilities)

798 are under extensive regulatory and business pressures that affect the ultimate demand for coal.

799 Moreover, transportation costs are a larger share of delivered fuel prices. When transport is  
 800 expensive, changes in production costs have a smaller impact on the cost of delivered coal.

801 Further, even if major sources of fossil fuels from federal lands are curtailed—for example, if  
 802 coal extracted from federal lands were to become more expensive or curtailed altogether—then,  
 803 in a free market structure, other suppliers could potentially offset or erase the effects from federal  
 804 leasing reforms.

805

806 I agree with Erickson that an understanding of how markets operate is critically important; in  
 807 my view, the qualitative schematic that Erickson offers to explain behavior in the coal market is  
 808 not accurate. In my opinion, wholesale reform of federal fossil fuel leasing policies warrants  
 809 more rigorous analysis of attendant impacts than that presented by Erickson in his Expert Report.

810

811 Second, Erickson demonstrates lack of attention to the existing literature on the topic of federal  
 812 fossil fuel leasing reform. Similar to his discussion of subsidy reform, Erickson’s Expert Report  
 813 suggests that academic research is supportive of his conclusions. As the basis for his opinion,  
 814 Erickson asserts there has been little analysis of the impact on emissions of constraints imposed  
 815 on U.S. fossil fuel production. In my opinion, this is incorrect. Erickson also posits that there is  
 816 widespread agreement regarding the effects of leasing reform fossil fuel markets. He cites to a  
 817 body of literature focused on the function of energy markets (ref 53 in the Erickson report); yet,  
 818 he does not elaborate on what those studies actually show. My examination of this literature, and  
 819 all the other literature that Erickson cites with regard to the coal market, reveals that, on balance,  
 820 the most reliable expert studies are not supportive of Erickson’s position. My review of  
 821 Erickson’s Expert Report reveals that, despite citing various bodies of literature in support of his  
 822 opinions, Erickson fails to acknowledge and rebut the areas of differences between the literature

823 cited and his findings. In fact, the studies cited by Erickson offer a more nuanced view of the  
 824 impacts of coal leasing reforms than that asserted by Erickson in his Expert Report. Below, I  
 825 discuss my assessment of two studies cited by Erickson

826

827 The first study cited in ref 53 of Erickson is a detailed model analysis by Gerarden et al., 2016.  
 828 This study examines the coal leasing reforms that Erickson asserts should be adopted by the U.S.  
 829 The Gerarden study reveals interactions that explain why federal leasing reforms have indirect  
 830 and small impacts on emissions contributions.<sup>54</sup> Notably, the study reveals that only about 40%  
 831 of US coal production comes from federal lands, and thus the impact of leasing reforms on total  
 832 production requires modeling of the entire coal market—federal and non-federal sources. The  
 833 study further cautions that any such modeling effort also must address the fact that higher prices  
 834 on federal lands likely will be offset by new coal supplies arising from non-federal lands.<sup>55</sup> It is  
 835 instructive to note that, since 2008, U.S. coal shipments to the electric power sector (by far the  
 836 dominant user of coal in the country) have already declined 36%—an amount nearly equal to  
 837 Gerarden et al.’s estimate of the entire production from federal lands.<sup>56</sup> Those declines are due  
 838 principally to factors unrelated to coal leasing reform—such as inexpensive natural gas and  
 839 larger mandates for (and greater economic competitiveness of) renewable energy<sup>57</sup>—and are  
 840 indicative of the large excess supply of coal that stands ready to fill the market even if changes to  
 841 federal coal leasing affected the supply and price of coal.

842

843 Other academic studies reveal complementary findings to those of Gerarden et al., 2016. For  
 844 example, a study by the consultancy ICF looks at a large number of scenarios that include many  
 845 interventions in the federal coal leasing program.<sup>58</sup> This study has the advantage that the model  
 846 used allows calculation of the full array of energy sources used to generate electricity (known as  
 847 the “generation mix”), and thus can examine the impact of coal leasing reforms on consumption  
 848 of coal by the industry’s largest customer (power utilities) and total emissions. Erickson cites  
 849 this study to support the point that curtailment in federal coal leasing will lead to substitution of  
 850 coal by less emission-intensive renewables or natural gas (page 19). In fact, the ICF study is  
 851 much more nuanced and generally finds the opposite conclusion regarding the generation mix.  
 852 That study concludes that the leasing reforms have little impact because “...increased production  
 853 from non-federal coal offsets the reductions in federal coal, leaving national coal-fired

<sup>54</sup> Todd Gerarden, W. Spencer Reeder, and James H. Stock, “Federal Coal Program Reform, the Clean Power Plan, and the Interaction of Upstream and Downstream Climate Policies,” NBER Working Paper No. 22214, issued April 2016, available online at: <http://www.nber.org/papers/w22214>. An assumption in this analysis is that coal buyers face other limits on the cost-effectiveness of coal purchases when compared with other fuels, such as natural gas. Gerarden et al., 2016 model those limits using the CPP, but any other set of similar constraints would have similar effects and lead to the same conclusion; that is, coal leasing reforms have minimal impact on coal production, consumption and emissions. Despite current policy discussions about repeal of the CPP, large coal-fired electric utilities (the main buyers of coal in the United States) are making investment and operational plans as if the CPP or other incentives, such as state-level policies, would continue to exist. Thus the Gerarden et al analysis remains germane to the real world effects of a potential coal leasing reform.

<sup>55</sup> Ibid.

<sup>56</sup> US Energy Information Administration. US Coal Shipments Reach Their Lowest Level in Years. 2018.

<https://www.eia.gov/todayinenergy/detail.php?id=36812>

<sup>57</sup> K. Larsen, J. Larsen, W. Herndon, S. Mohan, and T. Houser, *Taking Stock 2017: Adjusting Expectations for US GHG Emissions* (Rhodium Group, 2017).

<sup>58</sup> Vulcan/ICF, “Federal Coal Leasing Reform Options: Effects on CO2 Emissions and Energy Markets, Summary of Modeling Results, Final Report” (Vulcan, Inc. report with analysis supported by ICF International, January 26, 2016)

854 generation unchanged.” Yet Erickson concludes his assessment of coal leasing reforms with the  
 855 statement that “any constraints on coal supply are expected to affect prices and lead to reduced  
 856 coal consumption for power generation [and lower CO<sub>2</sub> emissions].” (page 19)

857

858 Erickson offers this conclusion despite the fact that, in the actual U.S. coal market, whether  
 859 “any” constraint on supply affects demand depends on the actions of substitute suppliers and on  
 860 factors that affect demand for coal. This is especially true in the electric power sector, where  
 861 most coal is consumed in the U.S., and where coal competes directly with rival sources of power,  
 862 such as renewables and natural gas . For example, Erickson cites a recent study by Houser et al.,  
 863 which explores whether coal can make a “comeback.” This study is instructive, because it looks  
 864 exactly at the kinds of policy scenarios that Erickson is considering. Specifically, Houser et al  
 865 assess the effects of coal leasing reforms on the competitiveness of coal, and then assess  
 866 outcomes assuming such policies were removed. Houser et al conclude that a shift in policy  
 867 “could stem the recent decline in U.S. coal consumption, but only if natural gas prices increase  
 868 going forward. If natural gas prices remain at or near current levels or renewable costs fall more  
 869 quickly than expected, U.S. coal consumption will continue its decline.”<sup>59</sup> I believe that current  
 870 drilling behavior and technological advances in the gas market suggest that prices for natural gas  
 871 will remain low for the foreseeable future.

872

873 In my opinion, irrespective of federal fossil fuel leasing reforms or reversal of preferential tax-  
 874 based subsidies, it is probable that coal extraction will continue to decline over time, and  
 875 attendant emissions contributions also will decline. I base this opinion on the breadth of my  
 876 institutional expertise and assessment of the literature.

877

**878 Finding #6. THE U.S. DID NOT FAIL TO TAKE AN AFFIRMATIVE ACTION TO  
 879 ELIMINATE FOSSIL FUELS AFTER THE ENERGY CRISES OF THE 1970S.**

880

881 In his Expert Report, Stiglitz asserts that, since the watershed moments of the 1970s, the U.S. has  
 882 perpetuated a fossil energy system. Specifically, Stiglitz states:

883

884     “The fact that the U.S. national energy system is so predominately fossil fuel-  
 885 based is not an inevitable consequence of history. With the oil crises of the 1970s,  
 886 recognition of the risks of dependence on oil was developed (though these risks  
 887 were markedly different from those with which we are concerned today). Even  
 888 then, it was clear that there were viable alternatives, and with the appropriate  
 889 allocation of further resources to R&D, it is likely that these alternatives would  
 890 have been even more competitive. Thus, the current level of dependence of our  
 891 energy system on fossil fuels is a result of intentional actions taken by Defendants  
 892 over many years (including subsidization of fossil fuels and inactions in the form  
 893 of not providing adequate support for alternatives).” (page 12)

894

895 Stiglitz further states:

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<sup>59</sup> Trevor Houser, Jason Bordoff, and Peter Marsters, Center on Global Energy Policy, “Can Coal Make a Comeback?” April 2017, available online at:  
<http://energypolicy.columbia.edu/sites/default/files/Center%20on%20Global%20Energy%20Policy%20Can%20Coa%20Make%20a%20Comeback%20April%202017.pdf>.

896        "I would note that inactions in this sense are affirmative decisions by Defendants  
 897        not to act." (page 12)

898 In my opinion, this assertion is not well-substantiated and is misleading. Stiglitz does not identify  
 899 plausible, real-world actions that the U.S. could have taken that would have led to appreciably  
 900 different outcomes. Contrary to what Stiglitz asserts, I believe that the dependence on fossil  
 901 fuels which existed prior to oil crises of the 1970s, and which exists today, is the "inevitable  
 902 consequence of history." (page 12) Two facts support my opinion.

904

905 First, every major industrial economy faced similar challenges during the energy crises of the  
 906 1970s, and each of these economies emerged from the crises with energy systems dominated by  
 907 fossil fuels.<sup>60</sup> Although several of these economies invested in the leading renewable power  
 908 system of the day—hydroelectric energy—each economy remained dependent on fossil fuels.

909 Two of these large industrial economies—France and Japan—invested in nuclear power. In the  
 910 case of France, which made the most decisive shift to nuclear power of any major economy, half  
 911 of its energy system relies on fossil fuels and 41% relies on nuclear power.<sup>61</sup> In the case of  
 912 Japan, nuclear power accounted for 15% of the country's energy system, and fossil fuels  
 913 accounted for 80%.<sup>62</sup> Since 1998, the share of fossil fuels has increased. I cite to these examples  
 914 to illustrate that the U.S. was not alone in its response to the energy challenges arising from the  
 915 crises of 1970. Despite all this sustained attention the challenge of fossil fuel supply across the  
 916 global economy and despite substantial spending on alternative energy systems, fossil fuels  
 917 remained the dominant energy source for the global economy and all major industrial economies.

918 In my expert opinion, as a historian of energy technology, I believe that the global race to  
 919 dependence on fossil fuels, indeed, was inevitable. Further, my opinion is supported by  
 920 internationally recognized historians in energy technology.<sup>63</sup>

921

922 Second, Stiglitz's assertion that dependence on fossil fuels was not an "inevitable consequence  
 923 of history" is based on the premise that viable alternatives to fossil fuels were available, but for a  
 924 failure of the Federal government to invest in associated research, development and  
 925 demonstration of new technologies (RD&D). Stiglitz misrepresents the magnitude and breadth

<sup>60</sup> The one possible exception to this statement is the Soviet Union, a large industrial economy that, at the time embraced central planning and had significant fossil fuel production of its own. It did not experience the energy crises of the 1970s in the same way. Nonetheless, the Soviet Union also maintained a fossil fuel-dominated energy system.

<sup>61</sup> These data computed from BP Statistical Review of World Energy, a widely used expert reference source, available online at: <https://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/energy-economics/statistical-review-of-world-energy.html>. Data for France are for 2015, the peak year for nuclear since 1965 and thus the year when fossil fuels accounted for their smallest share of the French energy system. The French share of fossil energy declined below 70% for the first time in 1985 as the country's nuclear deployment program accelerated and has been below that level ever since.

<sup>62</sup> Ibid.

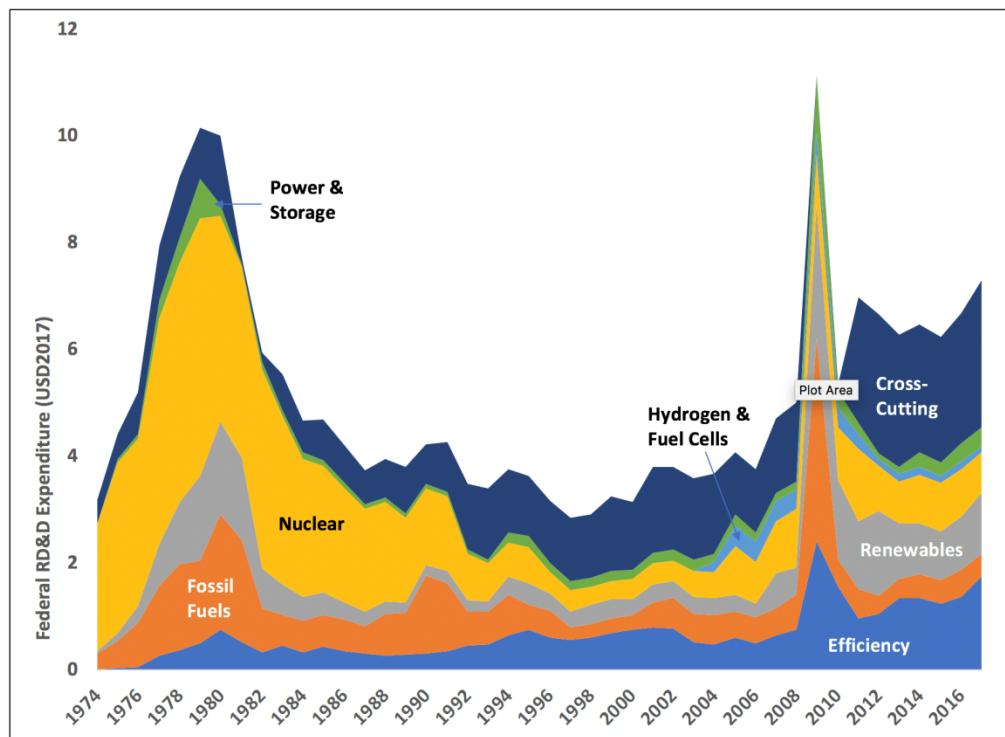
<sup>63</sup> .H. Ausubel, A. Grubel, and N. Nakicenovic, "Carbon Dioxide Emissions in a Methane Economy," *Climatic Change* 12:245 (1998). Vaclav Smil, *Energy at the Crossroads: Global Perspectives and Uncertainties* Cambridge: MIT Press, February 11, 2005.

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926 of the Federal government's contributions to RD&D.<sup>64</sup> I have examined the data, and contrary to  
 927 Stiglitz's assertion, the U.S. has devoted a substantial and growing fraction of its RD&D budget  
 928 in the known alternatives to fossil fuels. Figure 5 shows public-sector energy-related spending  
 929 (in constant dollars) on R&D by source. The data supports my conclusion that the U.S.  
 930 substantially invested in zero-emission and low emissions technologies: nuclear power,  
 931 renewables, and energy efficiency. When viewed holistically, since 1980, a greater proportion of  
 932 public-sector spending has focused on non-fossil fuel related energy systems than on fossil fuels.



933

934 Figure 5: U.S. public sector energy-related spending on research, development and  
 935 demonstration (RD&D) since 1980. Source: IEA RD&D database—see the U.S. time series  
 936 data, total RD&D in million 2017USD at market exchange rates  
 937 (<http://wds.iea.org/WDS/TableViewer/dimView.aspx?ReportId=1399>)

938

939 A cornerstone of Stiglitz's opinion is that renewable technologies—zero-emission alternatives—  
 940 were ripe for increased public-sector investment, and if only the U.S. had made those  
 941 investments, then renewables would have become a leading source of the U.S. energy supply  
 942 instead of fossil fuels. Stiglitz's but-for argument is a form of revisionist history that is not  
 943 supported by the facts of the time.

944

945 As illustrated in Figure 6, during the energy crises of the 1970s and 1980s, renewable power was  
 946 a costly, niche option for energy supply. Specifically, Figure 6 charts time series data on the state  
 947 of performance for leading wind and solar technologies, as well as for gas turbines there were

<sup>64</sup> Stiglitz comments mainly about "R&D," as a general concept. I use the term RD&D, because for most energy technologies the last "D" is important—demonstration of new concepts at commercial scale is usually needed before the private sector will, on its own, invest in new technologies.

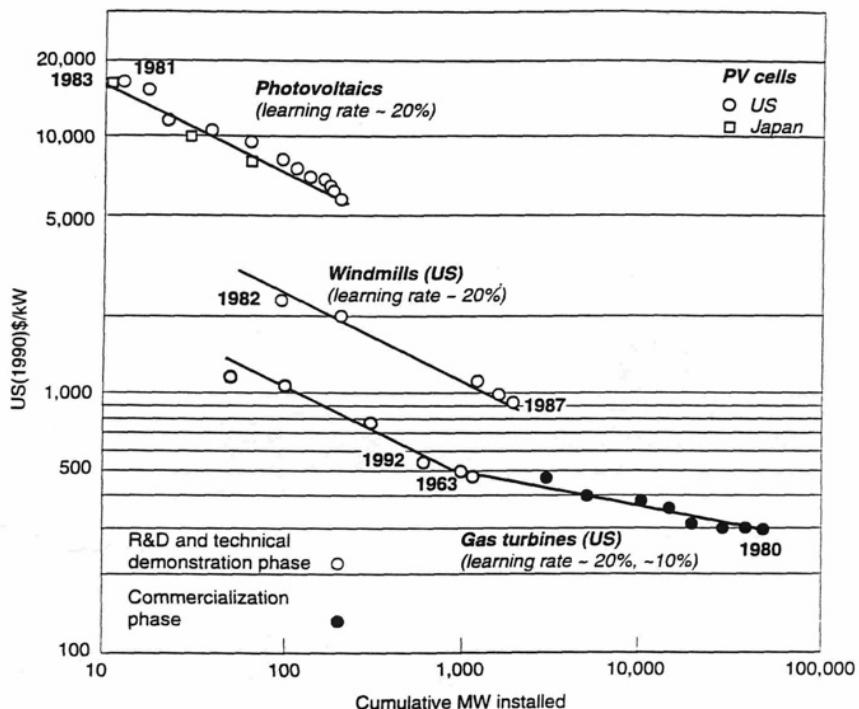
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948 also a relatively new technology at the time. Based on my assessment of this chart, I conclude  
 949 that advances in wind and solar technology have facilitated, and will continue to facilitate,  
 950 improvements in renewables in the U.S. energy system. However, at the time of the first energy  
 951 crises in the 1970s, these technologies were cost-prohibitive, and the scale of their performance  
 952 potential was relatively unknown.

953



954 Figure 6: Performance (measured in \$ capital expenditure for kilowatt of energy output  
 955 potential) over time for leading photovoltaics (also known as solar cells), wind and gas turbine  
 956 technologies. The chart shows the cost of buying each technology, and how cost improved with  
 957 time and investment. The basis for my opinion is the snapshot around 1980s, when solar cells  
 958 approached \$20,000 USD/kw, wind was about \$3000 USD/kw, and still immature gas turbines  
 959 were more than \$1000 USD/kw.<sup>65</sup> For comparison, coal fired power plants were, at the time,  
 960 about \$700 for coal-fired power plants.<sup>66</sup> Put differently, the categories of renewable energy  
 961 technologies that today are most promising (solar and wind) were approximately 25x to 5x the  
 962 capital cost of coal plants. These novel power sources were also less reliable and, in the case of  
 963 gas, burned fuel that was more costly. Source: Arnulf Grubler, Nebojsa Nakicenovic and David

<sup>65</sup> The study for figure 6 is but one, although a fairly comprehensive review of the literature. More recent retrospectives on renewable technology point to similar findings—for example, the Lantz et al retrospective on wind power, which puts the capital cost of wind projects around 1980 in the US at about \$3300/kw (converted to 1990\$ with the GDP deflator). See E. Lantz, M. Hand, R. Wiser. The Past and Future Cost of Wind Energy. 2010. NREL Preprint

<sup>66</sup> A major retrospective analysis of coal-fired power plants puts the capital cost at about \$1000 USD/kw capacity in the 1970s. That figure is in 2006\$, which converted to 1990\$ using the GDP deflator (to make it comparable with figure 6) is about \$700. For the retrospective see J. McNerney, J.D. Farmer, and J.E. Trancik, "Historical costs of coal-fired electricity and implications for the future," 39 Energy Policy 3042-3054 (2011).

964 *G. Victor, "Dynamics of energy technologies and global change," Energy Policy 27(5):247-280,*  
 965 1999.

966

967 Stiglitz fails to acknowledge that, in the late 1970s, there was little experience with renewables  
 968 technology, and what experience did exist suggests such technologies would be substantially  
 969 more costly than existing commercial rivals. Figure 6 suggests on the order of 10 times more  
 970 expensive. Further, during this era, the U.S. was already adopting a range of policies aimed at  
 971 supporting renewables and assisting other low-emission technologies to become cost  
 972 competitive. For example, in 1978, the U.S. reformed its energy policies to facilitate the entry of  
 973 new energy technologies, including their ability to connect to the U.S. power grid.<sup>67</sup> In addition,  
 974 the U.S. was actively supporting nuclear power, efficiency, fuel cells and other major options.  
 975

976 **Finding #7. ERRORS OF OMISSION: CLIMATE CHANGE REQUIRES  
 977 INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION, WHICH IS A MATTER FOR WELL-  
 978 PROSECUTED FOREIGN POLICY**

979

980 In my expert opinion, effective solutions to mitigate the adverse impacts of climate change  
 981 necessitate engaged cooperation between the U.S. and its international partners. My review of  
 982 the expert reports submitted by Erickson and Stiglitz fail to adequately address the importance of  
 983 international cooperation in addressing climate change. The omission by Erickson and Stiglitz to  
 984 address the importance of international cooperation in addressing climate change leads to  
 985 misleading conclusions about the breadth and scope of the challenges associated with slowing  
 986 and reversing climate change, and the role of the U.S. in redressing these challenges. Below, I  
 987 discuss the basis for my opinion

988

989 First, technologies and fuels are traded globally. GHGs, once emitted, mix globally, as does the  
 990 heat created when those GHGs alter the climate. As such, the capacity of the U.S. to alter the  
 991 global trajectory of climate change through unilateral domestic action is limited. For example,  
 992 assume the U.S. government unilaterally ceased all emissions contributions from its own  
 993 footprint. The countervailing impact of its actions would be to reduce global emissions by less  
 994 than 1%, which is less than the annual change in global emissions between 2011 and 2012.<sup>68</sup>

<sup>67</sup> See the Public Utility Regulatory Policies Act (PURPA), Pub. L. 95-617, 92 Stat. 3117, 16 U.S. Code 46 § 2601 et seq., enacted November 9, 1978.

<sup>68</sup> The U.S. Department of Energy, Office of Energy Efficiency & Renewable Energy (EERE) publishes annual Federal Agency Greenhouse Gas Inventory data at <http://ctsedwweb.ee.doe.gov/Annual/Report/ComprehensiveGreenhouseGasGHGInventoriesByAgencyAndFiscalYear.aspx>. These data indicate that 2012 greenhouse gas emissions across all Federal Agencies totaled 164.39 million metric tons of CO<sub>2</sub> equivalent. This number can be calculated by summing the subtotals for Scope 1 (15.188 and 45.623 and 0.831 million metric tons), Scope 2 (30.4 and 0.89 and 1.912 million metric tons), and Scope 3 (16.537 and 52.683 and 0.326 million metric tons) emissions across all three of the emissions categories provided. The EDGAR 4.2 FT2012 (all GHGs) dataset, referenced as the source for Figure 2 earlier in this Expert Report, does not provide data beyond 2012; its estimate for global GHG emissions as of 2012 is 53,526.3028283888 million metric tons. Dividing approximately 161 million by approximately 53,526 million yields approximately 0.003, or 0.3% of global emissions. By comparison, the EDGAR data used in this Expert Report as a reference for Figure 2 indicate a year-over-year change in total global greenhouse gas emissions between 2011 and 2012 of 1.39 percent, or approximately 52,791 million metric tons in 2011 to 53,562 million metric tons in 2012.

995 Further, assume that the U.S. economy as a whole eliminated all of its territorial emissions  
 996 contributions, which in 2012 accounted for 12% of global emissions. That 12% reduction would  
 997 be offset to some degree by countervailing responses in other countries. Lower US demand for  
 998 fuels, such as oil could lower the global price for oil and raise consumption and emissions in  
 999 other countries. Higher costs of industrial production in the US due to higher energy costs could  
 1000 shift industrial activity to other countries, leading to expanded consumption of fossil energy and  
 1001 emissions abroad. Higher demand in the US for renewable energy technologies and other  
 1002 elements of a zero emission energy system could raise the price of those technologies globally,  
 1003 leading to reduced use abroad and higher emissions. Deriving a quantitative measure of such  
 1004 impacts requires understanding of how the global markets and other governments would respond  
 1005 to such actions. Stiglitz offers no such estimate for the size of these countervailing responses,  
 1006 except to say that "U.S. emissions will not be perfectly offset," (page 41) a statement for which  
 1007 he cites a study that does not examine the extreme scenario he contemplates. Nor does Stiglitz  
 1008 offer any other citations to supporting literature or analysis; he also does not acknowledge that  
 1009 even a complete cessation of US emissions without any offsetting effect would alter global  
 1010 emissions only 12%.

1011

1012 Stiglitz suggests in his Expert Report that if the U.S. were to lead with extreme action, such as  
 1013 ceasing approval for any new fossil fuel infrastructure, that others nations would follow.<sup>69</sup>  
 1014 Stiglitz does not quantify the magnitude of this effect, nor does he offer guideposts to estimate  
 1015 the possible impacts. My review of academic studies that have examined the effects of  
 1016 leadership in areas where countries already are instituting reductions in emissions suggests that  
 1017 leadership, in fact, does not automatically generate followership.<sup>70</sup> Leadership without  
 1018 cooperation and coordination can be counter productive, reducing the impact of unilateral actions  
 1019 on emissions. Failure to demonstrate cooperation in tandem with leadership can also undermine  
 1020 political support needed to sustain emissions controls.

1021

1022 Second, international cooperation requires international institutions for cooperation, including  
 1023 venues to encourage dialogue and treaties to foster engagement. The U.S. has been at the  
 1024 forefront of efforts to build those institutions. For example, the U.S. has been a seminal  
 1025 participant in the IPCC.<sup>71</sup> The U.S. also was one of the key architects of the 1992 Framework  
 1026 Convention on Climate Change, and served as a leading force (along with China and France) in  
 1027 creating the 2015 Paris Agreement.<sup>72</sup>

1028

<sup>69</sup> See page 41. Stiglitz asserts that, because the U.S. is a big emitter leadership though its actions "has a significant impact on these global outcomes", referring to the outcomes of lower emissions globally, and the avoidance of an offsetting "leakage" of emissions to other jurisdictions.

<sup>70</sup> David G. Victor et al., "Turning Paris into reality at the University of California," *Nature Climate Change* 8:183-185, 2018. Robert O. Keohane and David G. Victor, "Cooperation and Discord in Global Climate Policy," *Nature Climate Change*. 2016. DOI: 10.1038/NCLIMATE2937

<sup>71</sup> Alan D Hecht and Dennis Tirpak. Framework Agreement on Climate Change: A Scientific and Policy History. 1995. 29 *Climatic Change* 371-402.

<sup>72</sup> On the US role see for example C.F. Parker and C. Karlsson, "The UN climate change negotiations and the role of the United States: assessing American leadership from Copenhagen to Paris" 27 *Environmental Politics* 519-540 (2018). <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09644016.2018.1442388>

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1029 In my opinion, mitigating climate change requires the committed engagement of the U.S. and its  
 1030 international partners. I believe that the measured progress realized to date reflects mainly the  
 1031 complexity and political challenges associated with crafting effective international cooperation,  
 1032 rather than neglect of the topic by the U.S. government. It is my expert opinion that the  
 1033 simplistic and narrowly-focused approaches posited by Stiglitz and Erickson with respect to U.S.  
 1034 engagement—which advocate unilateral action and gloss over the challenges inherent to  
 1035 international engagement and cooperation—fail to respect the global nature of the problem, the  
 1036 need for an integrated, portfolio-based solution and the essential role for diplomacy in the  
 1037 process of implementing that solution.

1038

**1039 IV. INFORMATION RELIED UPON AND CONSIDERED**

1040

1041 Alan D Hecht and Dennis Tirpak. Framework Agreement on Climate Change: A Scientific  
 1042 and Policy History. 1995. 29 Climatic Change 371-402

1043 Arnulf Grubler, Nebojsa Nakicenovic and David G. Victor, "Dynamics of energy  
 1044 technologies and global change," Energy Policy 27(5):247-280, 1999.

1045 BP Statistical Review of World Energy, a widely used expert reference source, available  
 1046 online at: <https://www.bp.com/en/global/corporate/energy-economics/statistical-review-of-world-energy.html>.

1048 Carbon Dioxide Information Analysis Center, National CO<sub>2</sub> Emissions from Fossil-Fuel  
 1049 Burning, Cement Manufacture, and Gas Flaring: 1751-2014, national-level dataset dated  
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1205 V. COMPENSATION

1206

1207 My preparatory rate for expert services in this case is \$325/hour. My Testimony or Deposition  
1208 rate is \$350/hour.

1209

1210 I have not testified as an expert at trial or by deposition within the preceding four (4) years.

1211

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1212 **Appendix A: CV**

1213

1214 **DAVID G. VICTOR**

1215

1216 **A. PROFESSIONAL PREPARATION:**

1217 Harvard University, History and Science, A.B., 1987

1218 Massachusetts Institute of Technology, Political Science, Ph.D., 1997

1219

1220 **B. APPOINTMENTS:**

1221 University of California, San Diego

1222 Professor, School of International Relations and Pacific Studies, 2009 to present

1223 Director, Laboratory on International Law and Regulation, 2009 to present

1224 Stanford University

1225 Professor, School of Law, 2006-2009

1226 Director, Program on Energy and Sustainable Development, 2001-2009

1227 Council on Foreign Relations, New York

1228 Robert W. Johnson, Jr., Senior Fellow for Science and Technology, 1998-2009

1229 International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis, Laxenburg, Austria

1230 Research Scholar, Project on "Environmentally Compatible Energy Strategies, 1997-1998

1231 Co-Leader, Project on "Implementation and Effectiveness of International Environmental

1232 Commitments (IEC)", 1993-1997

1233

1234 **C. PRODUCTS**

1235

1236 **1. Five Most Relevant Products**

1237 [1] David G. Victor, 2011, *Global Warming Gridlock: Creating More Effective Strategies for Protecting the Planet* (Cambridge: Cambridge University Press).

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1248

1249 **2. Other Significant Products**

1250 [1] "The Cognitive Revolution and the Political Psychology of Elite Decision Making,"

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1252 [2] "Politics and Economics of Second-Best Regulation of Greenhouse Gases: The Importance of  
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1258 [5] Markets in Developing Countries: Politics, Law and Institutions, *Cambridge: Cambridge*  
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1260

**1261 D. SYNERGISTIC ACTIVITIES:**

1262

**1263 1. Selected awards**

1264 Heinz I. Eulau Award, American Political Science Association, 2012.

1265 Convening Lead Author, Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change, 2011-2014.

1266

**1267 2. Selected Fellowships and Lectures**

1268 Keeling Lecture, Scripps Institution of Oceanography, April 2014

1269 Harold Jacobson Lecture, Institute for Social Research, University of Michigan, October 2013.

1270 Banco Mundial lecture, Sao Paulo, Brazil. March 2013.

1271 Energy Forum Lecture, University of Texas, Austin. February 2012.

1272 Research Institute of Innovative Technology for Earth featured speaker, Tokyo, Japan. February  
 1273 2013.

1274 Electric Power Research Institute keynote speaker, Summer Seminar, August 2012.

1275 Cochrane Lecture, University of Minnesota. January 2010.

1276 Observer Research Foundation plenary lecture, September 2008.

1277

**1278 3. Professional Activities**

1279 American Association for the Advancement of Science

1280 American Political Science Association

1281 American Geophysical Union

1282 American Society of International Law

1283 International Studies Association

1284 International Institute for Strategic Studies

1285

**1286 4. Editorial activities**

1287 Editorial Boards: *Climatic Change* (Deputy Editor responsible for most submissions in the social  
 1288 sciences). Oxford University Press *Encyclopedia of Global Change. Chinese Academy of Social*  
*1289 Sciences, Sustainable Development Research. Nature Climate Change. Energy Research and*  
*1290 Social Science.*

1291 Reviewer (selected): *American Journal of International Law. American Journal of Political*  
*1292 Science. American Political Science Review. Climatic Change. Comparative Political Studies.*

*1293 Governance. International Studies Quarterly. Journal of Energy Policy. Journal of Politics.*

*1294 Nature. Review of International Studies. Regulation and Governance. Science. World Politics.*

1295

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1296 E. COLLABORATORS AND OTHER AFFILIATIONS

1297

1298 1. Collaborators and coauthors in past 48 months

1299 Valentina Bosetti (FEEM), Emilie Hafner-Burton (UCSD), David Hults (Stanford Law School),  
1300 Charles Kennel (SIO/UCSD), Robert Keohane (Princeton), Yonatan Lupu (GWU), Fang Rong  
1301 (UCSD), Varun Rai (UT-Austin), V. (Ram) Ramanathan (SIO/UCSD), P.R. Shukla (IIMA), Barton  
1302 Thompson (Stanford Law School), Mark Thurber (Stanford), Kassia Yanosek (McKinsey and  
1303 Company).

1304

1305 2. Graduate advisors

1306 Eugene B. Skolnikoff (MIT), Abraham Chayes (Harvard), Kenneth Oye (MIT).

1307

1308 3. Ph.D. advising

1309 Jeremy Carl (Stanford), Danny Cullenward (Stanford), Yassir Eddebarr (UCSD), Stephie Fried  
1310 (UCSD), Ryan Hanna (UCSD), Mark Hayes (Stanford), Lukas Nonnemacher (UCSD), Daniel  
1311 Maliniak (UCSD), Peter Kannberg (Scripps Institution of Oceanography), Wei Peng (Princeton),  
1312 Varun Rai (Stanford), Tamara Sheldon (UCSD), Yanyang Xu (UCSD).

1313

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**1314 Appendix B: Publications 2008-Present**

1315

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 1317     countries to limit black carbon and methane emissions. 2018 . Nature Climate Change,  
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1319

1320     **Abdulla A., Ford M.J., Morgan M.G., Victor D.G.** A retrospective analysis of funding and  
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1323

1324     **Ajami, Newsha K., Barton H. Thompson Jr., David G. Victor.** The Path to Water Innovation.  
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1326

1327     **Bang G., Victor D.G., Andresen S.** California's cap-and-trade programme: The role of  
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1331     **Bang G., Victor D.G., Andresen S.** California's cap-and-trade system: Diffusion and lessons.  
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1333

1334     **Bosetti V., Victor D.G.** Politics and economics of second-best regulation of greenhouse  
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1344

1345     **Clack C.T.M., Qvist S.A., Apt J., Bazilian M., Brandt A.R., Caldeira K., Davis S.J., Diakov V.,  
 1346     Handschy M.A., Hines P.D.H., Jaramillo P., Kammen D.M., Long J.C.S., Morgan M.G., Reed  
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1351

1352     **Collins, William, Steven J. Davis, Roger Bales, Jennifer Burney, Ryan McCarthy, Eric  
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 1355     stability

1356

1357     **Edenhofer, Ottmar, Ramón Pichs-Madruga, Youba Sokona, Susanne Kadner, Jan C Minx,**  
 1358     **Steffen Brunner, Shardul Agrawala, Giovanni Baiocchi, Igor Alexeyevich Bashmakov,**  
 1359     **Gabriel Blanco, John Broome, Thomas Bruckner, Mercedes Bustamante, Leon Clarke, M**  
 1360     **Conte Grand, Felix Creutzig, Xochitl Cruz-Nunez, Shobhakar Dhakal, Navroz K Dubash,**  
 1361     **Patrick Eickemeier, Ellie Farahani, Manfred Fischedick, Marc Fleurbaey, Reyer Gerlagh,**  
 1362     **Luis Gomez Echeverri, Sujata Gupta, J Hamisch, Kejun Jiang, Frank Jotzo, Sivan Kartha,**  
 1363     **Stephan Klasen, Charles Kolstad, Volker Krey, HC Kunreuther, Oswaldo Lucon, Omar**  
 1364     **Masera, Yacob Mulugetta, Richard Norgaard, T Patt, Nijavalli H Ravindranath, Keywan**  
 1365     **Riahi, Joyashree Roy, Ambuj Sagar, Roberto Schaeffer, Steffen Schlömer, Karen Seto,**  
 1366     **Kristin Seyboth, Ralph Sims, Pete Smith, Eswaran Somanathan, Robert Stavins, C von**  
 1367     **Stechow, Thomas Sterner, Taishi Sugiyama, Sangwon Suh, Kevin Urama, Diana Ürge-**  
 1368     **Vorsatz, Anthony Venables, D Victor, Elke Weber, Dadi Zhou, Ji Zou, Timm Zwickel.**  
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 1379  
 1380     **Gulbrandsen L.H., Underdal A., Victor D.G., Wettestad J.** Theory and method. 2017. *The*  
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